the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

ZEB WELLS
ED McGUINNESS
MARK FARMER
MARCIO MENYZ

ARMED AND DANGEROUS

MARVEL

VOLUME 07

the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

Armed and Dangerous

THE EMISSARY, a mad mathematician who tried to become a god of death (and nearly succeeded), has been defeated once and for all. But at what cost? MS. MARVEL made the ultimate sacrifice, giving her life to stop the evil plan. As she died in Spider-Man's arms, she removed her mask revealing her identity as Oscorp intern KAMALA KHAN. The devastating blow was felt doubly by NORMAN OSBORN, who realized the young hero had interned at Oscorp to keep an eye on him.

But Peter and Norman don't have time to sit with their grief and guilt when New York City needs the protection of Spider-Man and Gold Goblin.

Jennifer Grünwald COLLECTION EDITOR
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Jasmine Alvarez & **Rachel Young** DIGITAL PRODUCTION
C.B. Cebulski EDITOR IN CHIEF

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the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

Armed and Dangerous

Zeb Wells WRITER

FREE COMIC BOOK DAY: SPIDER-MAN/VENOM
Patrick Gleason ARTIST
Marcio Menyz COLOR ARTIST
VC's **Joe Caramagna** LETTERER
Patrick Gleason & **Bryan Valenza** COVER ART

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #27-30
Ed McGuinness PENCILER
Mark Farmer WITH Cliff Rathburn (#30) & Ed McGuinness (#30) INKERS
Marcio Menyz COLOR ARTIST
VC's **Joe Caramagna** LETTERER
Ed McGuinness & **Marcio Menyz** COVER ART

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #31
JOHN ROMITA JR. & **EMILIO LAISO** WITH Zé Carlos PENCILERS
Scott Hanna & **Emilio Laiso** WITH Zé Carlos INKERS
Marcio Menyz & **Bryan Valenza** COLOR ARTISTS
VC's **Joe Caramagna** LETTERER
John Romita Jr., Scott Hanna & **Marcio Menyz** COVER ART

Kaeden McGahey ASSISTANT EDITOR
Tom Groneman ASSISTANT EDITOR
Nick Lowe EDITOR

SPIDER-MAN CREATED BY STAN LEE & STEVE DITKO

THEM. TOGETHER. TELL THEM WHAT HAPPENED.

I HAVE THEIR WORD THEY WON'T MAKE A MOVE UNLESS I SAY SO. I WON'T

FREE COMIC BOOK DAY: SPIDER-MAN/VENOM

GUESS WE SHOULD JUST HOP RIGHT IN.

THE NEW COSTUME OSBORN MADE FOR ME HAS A POLICE SCANNER.

AND YEAH, SOMETIMES, I WISH IT *DIDN'T.*

AARRRRGH!

THE *ESCAPED GORILLA* IS ONE OF THOSE TIMES, IF THAT WASN'T CLEAR.

S-STAY BACK!

LOOKS LIKE THE BIG APE JUST DISCOVERED HOW *TERRIBLE* NEW YORK CITY *PRODUCE* IS.

THAT'S NOT BAD. I'M GONNA SAY THAT OUT LOUD.

LOOKS LIKE *SOMEONE* JUST DISCOVERED HOW *TERRIBLE* NEW YORK CITY *PRODUCE* IS.

CHOKE IT DOWN LIKE THE REST OF US!

ATTACK-INTERCEPT MODE ENGAGED.

BUG, BUY ME SOME TIME. I'M GONNA CHECK ON THE NICE LADY.

WERE YOU CRACKING JOKES TO A GORILLA?

I CAN'T REALLY TURN IT OFF.

IT DOESN'T UNDERSTAND YOU, MAN.

OKAY, YOU'RE FINE.

LOOK OUT!

RELAX. IT'S HANDLED.

ATTACK INTERCEPTED.

ARRRGGGGGH!

ATTACK FUMBLED.

AAAAARRRR

OH, SWEET HEAVEN!

GA-GAAAK!

WAS YOUR PLAN TO MAKE HIM MORE MAD?!

ONE MOMENT.

RECALIBRATING FROM IMPACT.

YOU'RE NOT THE ONLY ONE...

GOOD THING BUG ISN'T THE ONLY TRICK I HAVE UP MY SLEEVE.

bloop

AROO?

GAH! HANDS OFF MY TRICKS!

THOSE ARE MY SPIDER-BOMBS!

BUG?! BUG!

RUH?

VERTICAL RECONTEXTUALIZATION INITIATED.

AAAAAAAAA

THANK YOU.

INITIATING BOGEY HANDOFF.

SO, YOU KIND OF JUST STAND AROUND WHILE THAT THING DOES ALL THE WORK?

NO!

WELL, IN THIS CASE, *KIND OF!*

YOU MIGHT WANT TO STAND BACK.

IT'S ALL RIGHT, EVERYONE! THE GORILLA HAS BEEN SUBDUED!

YEAH, WE DEFINITELY SAW YOU ASSAULT THE ANIMAL.

I PREFER THE TERM "SUBDUED."

YOU SHOULD STAY HERE UNTIL THE AUTHORITIES ARRIVE.

YEAH, *DON'T* MOVE.

YOU WON'T FEEL SAFE UNTIL *ANIMAL CONTROL* GETS HERE. *COMPLETELY* UNDERSTAND.

DON'T THINK YOU DO.

REST EASY. I'M NOT GOING ANYWHERE.

LATER.

YOU'RE NOT GOING ANYWHERE! THIS ANIMAL IS CONCUSSED!

I COULDN'T JUST *ASK* HIM TO STOP!

REALLY? *HE CAN SIGN OVER ONE THOUSAND WORDS, YOU SOCIOPATH!*

HIS HEART RATE IS ALL OVER THE PLACE. I THINK HE'S BEEN DRUGGED.

YOU SICKO! WHAT WAS IT?

I DIDN'T DRUG THE GORILLA!

DO YOU THINK THIS IS FUNNY?! *IT IS NOT FUNNY!*

OH WOW. THOSE COPS LOOK SERIOUS. DO ME A FAVOR AND TELL THEM I'M THE BROOKLYN GUY. *SEE YA!*

GET BACK HERE!

LATER STILL.

YOUR METHODS NEVER CEASE TO CONFUSE ME, KRAVEN.

IN THE CONGO, CAPTAIN BANANAS WAS A *GOD.*

IT WAS AN HONOR TO SET HIM LOOSE.

WHAT HAPPENED AFTER THAT IS ON *HIM.*

LET'S NOT PRETEND YOUR INTENTIONS WERE *NOBLE.* YOU USED THE APE AS BAIT.

A BEAST WILL FIND ITS PURPOSE, OR A PURPOSE WILL BE INFLICTED UPON IT.

HAVE YOU FOUND YOURS?

OF COURSE.

WHAT IS IT?

OH, YOU KNOW...

...THE USUAL.

AND NOW I HAVE EVERYTHING I NEED TO ENACT MY PLAN.

THANK YOU, KRAVEN.

I'LL TAKE IT FROM HERE.

YOU'RE J
RD PERSC
CHEDUL
FOR.

OT
NSIBLE?
'M THE
WHO--

ARE
WE DO
THIS?

SHHHH

EMEMES!
AFTER ROMITA!
MENACE

WE'RE TALKING ABOUT CONNECTING MY NERVOUS SYSTEM TO THE APPENDAGES OF MY GREATEST ENEMY...

GIVE ME A

I'VE GOT HIM.

THAT'S GREAT, BUT I'M NOT LOVING YOUR TONE.

TRY TO HAVE SOME FUN WITH IT!

WHY?

BECAUSE THAT'S *ALLOWED*, OKAY?

OKAY?!

WAIT UP!

GET ON THE GROUND, HERMAN.

I'M NOT PLAYING AROUND.

THANKS FOR LETTING ME KNOW.

GAUNTLETS SET TO "SERIOUS."

DEADPOOL

AAARGH!!

DON'T HURT HIM, HERMAN!

UH... WHY NOT?

BECAUSE I DIDN'T *BAIT* YOU WITH A *TOO-GOOD-TO-BE-TRUE* JOB SO YOU COULD *KILL* MY BOYFRIEND.

I'M JUST TRYING TO LOOSEN HIM UP.

TH- THE TIP WAS FROM *YOU*?!

THIS IS A SETUP?!

CLICH TK

WHO DO YOU *THINK* I AM?!

A PALATE CLEANSER FOR THE HERO WHO'S FOUGHT *EVERYONE*.

DON'T *ANTAGONIZE* HIM, CAT!

WHOMP WHOMP

THIS JOB IS *DANGEROUS* ENOUGH AS IT IS.

BUT IT'S ALSO *KIND OF* FUN, RIGHT?

NO!

A LITTLE?

LET ME SETTLE THIS...

YOU'RE *BOTH* DEAD!

ZORT

ZORT

WHAT THE--?

CLATCH

CLATCH

CLATCH

CLOTCH

CLOTCH

WHAT DID YOU DO?!

THUNK

OH NO...

DID MY *DIRTY, THIEVING* LITTLE FINGERS DO SOMETHING *BAD?*

IS THIS *FUNNY* TO YOU? THIS IS MY *JOB!*

AND NOW I HAVE TO **KILL YOU!**

YOU SEE HOW THESE THINGS ESCALATE?

I DON'T THINK HE MEANS IT...

YOU'RE GONNA DIEEEEE!!!

REALLY BAD CHOICE OF WORDS, HERMAN.

NOBODY'S KILLING ANYONE!

GARK!

THOK!

FEEL BETTER?

YOU KNOW I DON'T.

THIS ISN'T A GAME, CAT. PEOPLE GET HURT... PEOPLE...

LIKE...MS. MARVEL.

LIKE MS. MARVEL.

MAYBE THIS WAS TOO MUCH. TOO SOON.

YEAH...

CITY SEEMS QUIET AFTER EMISSARY'S ATTACK, ANYWAY.

LET'S CALL IT A DAY.

GET YOU AWAY FROM PRYING EYES.

NORMAN? CAN YOU SEND A DETAINMENT TEAM FOR THE SHOCKER?

SPIDER-MAN'S SIGNING OFF FOR A WHILE.

NORMAN?

YOU THERE?

MR. OSBORN?

HMM? OH, YES. WHAT IS IT?

WE GOT WORD FROM THE D.A.'S OFFICE.

THEY'RE NOT GOING TO PROSECUTE.

THEY AGREED THAT ASHLEY KAFKA, A.K.A. THE QUEEN GOBLIN, WAS A DANGER TO THE PUBLIC. YOUR...*ACTIONS* WERE JUSTIFIED.

YOU DIDN'T MISS **GOLD GOBLIN #5**, DID YOU?! —NICK

YOU'RE NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR HER DEATH.

NOT RESPONSIBLE? BUT I'M THE ONE WHO--

IN ANY MEASURABLE LEGAL SENSE, IT NEVER EVEN *HAPPENED*. YOU'RE COMPLETELY IN THE CLEAR.

THAT'S WHY YOU PAY US. SO YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY YOURSELF ABOUT IT.

TAKE THEM... TAKE THEM!

LEAVE HIM ALONE!

GKK--

MR. OSBORN?

ARE YOU LISTENING TO ME?

I HAD TO...

I HAD TO...

HOW LONG HAS IT BEEN? SINCE MS. MARVEL... *KAMALA*...GAVE HER LIFE TO SAVE MJ?

TO SAVE *ALL OF US?*

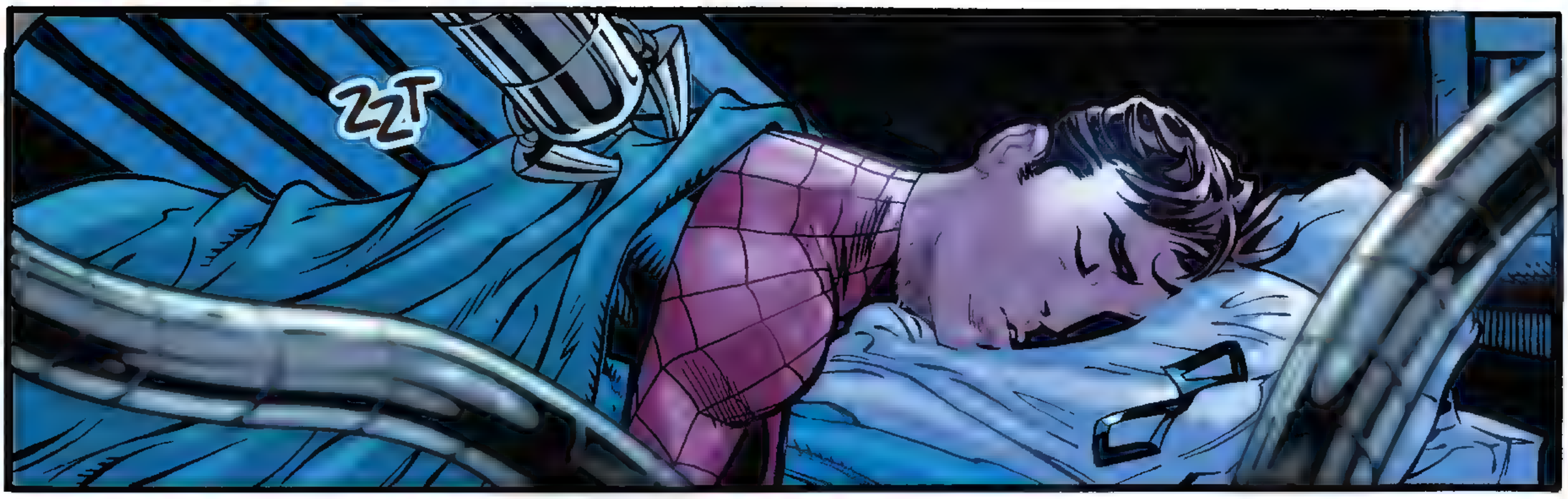
BLACK CAT IS RIGHT. SHE'D WANT US TO GO ON. KEEP FIGHTING THE GOOD FIGHT.

AND I *WILL.* FOR *HER.*

EVENTUALLY.

ZZT

ZZT ZZT?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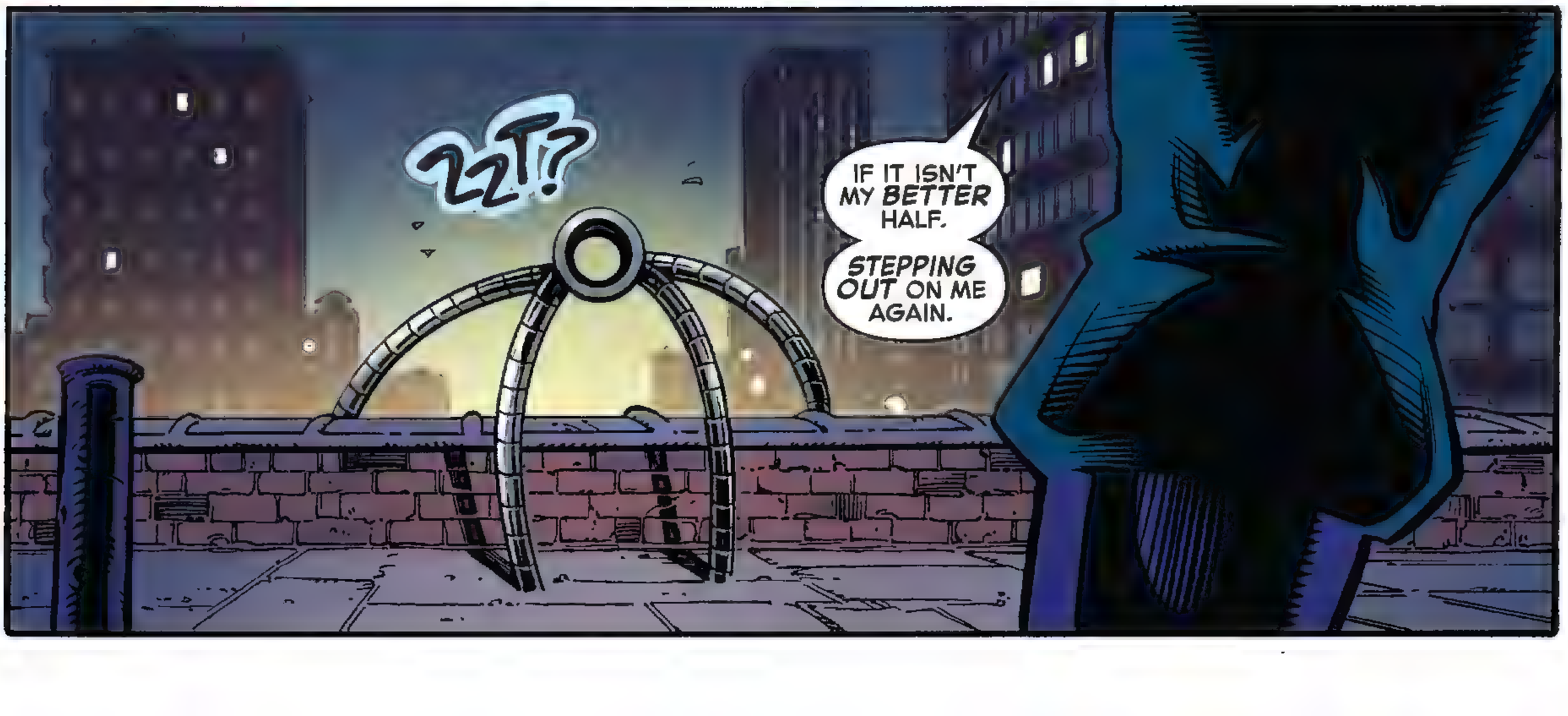

ZZT?
IF IT ISN'T MY BETTER HALF.
STEPPING OUT ON ME AGAIN.

IF YOU THOUGHT I WOULD FORGIVE YOUR BETRAYAL...

...HAVE I GOT A SURPRISE FOR YOU!

TEK

EEEEWWEEEEE!

WHEN I WAS A YOUNG MAN, I FELL IN LOVE WITH A GODDESS.

THEY CALLED HER *RADIATION*, THE ATOMIC SONG.

HER BEAUTY WAS SO HOLY NO MAN COULD SEE HER.

HER FORM SO SACRED NO MAN COULD *TOUCH* HER.

SO I BECAME MORE THAN A MAN.

I BUILT YOU.

CONNECTED YOU TO MY *SPINAL CORD* SO I COULD TOUCH HER.

FEEL HER.

AND OH, HOW SHE TICKLED ME.

THIS WOULDN'T VEX ME IF I COULD FIND SOME *DEFECT* OF DESIGN. SOME *TRACE* OF *TAMPERING.*

BUT OVER THE YEARS, SO SLOWLY THAT I BARELY NOTICED, IT WAS *YOU* AND I WHO BECAME ENMESHED.

YOU CAME TO INTUIT MY EVERY WISH, KNOW MY EVERY INTENTION.

AND YET, *SOMEHOW,* YOU BETRAYED ME TO PROTECT SPIDER-MAN. MY GREATEST ENEMY.

I'D HYPOTHESIZE YOUR AFFINITY FOR SPIDER-MAN CAME FROM MY OWN MIND, IF THE THOUGHT WASN'T SO OUTLANDISH IT REDDENS MY FACE.

NO...

YOU SURELY DIDN'T MISS **ASM #900**, DID YOU?!

I'M AFRAID THE ONLY ANSWER IS *YOU'RE BROKEN...*

...AND MUST BE *REPLACED.*

ZZT?

BY A SYSTEM WITH *REDUNDANCIES.*

SLAP

SLAP

SLAP

MY BRAIN SIGNALS, FILTERED THROUGH A MEDIUM OF SELF-VALIDATING *NANO-FLUID.*

ERRRCH

A BLOCKCHAIN OF CONSCIOUSNESS.

gwarble

EACH OCKTOID CONTAINING A SELF-CORRECTING COPY OF THE WHOLE.

gwarble

gwarble

COMPLETE WITH MY PARTICULAR CHARMS.

gwarble

WHICH LEAVES YOU WITH ONLY ONE PURPOSE...

gwarble gwarble

gwarble gwarble

BZZZZT!!

BZZT! BZZZT!

gwarble

ZARK

BZZZZZZZT!

gwarble gwarble

...TO BE DESTROYED!

ZARK

gwarble gwarble

BZZZZZZT!!!

gwarble gwarble

gwarble

ZARK

OSCORP.

NORMAN?

I FOUND KAMALA IN HERE, SNOOPING AROUND. RIGHT BEFORE I JOINED THE FIGHT WITH RABIN. I CHASED HER OFF...

...BUT SOMETHING IN ME ***KNEW*** SHE WASN'T GOING TO STAY AWAY.

I RECOGNIZED SOMETHING IN HER. THE SAME THING I ALWAYS SAW IN YOU.

THE DAMN *HEROISM.*

AND NOW I RECOGNIZE SOMETHING FAR LESS FLATTERING IN MYSELF. A ***BODY COUNT*** THAT SEEMS TO FOLLOW ME AROUND.

I--I WAS SO UPSET BY KAMALA'S DEATH I HAD TO BE ***REMINDED*** THAT I'D KILLED QUEEN GOBLIN LAST MONTH.

NORMAN, IT ISN'T--

DON'T WORRY, PETER. I'M NOT MAKING EXCUSES.

I KNOW IF I HAD NEVER BEEN THE GREEN GOBLIN IN THE FIRST PLACE, KAMALA NEVER WOULD HAVE JOINED OSCORP. SHE NEVER WOULD HAVE SUSPECTED I HAD EVIL INTENTIONS.

IT'S ALL MY FAULT. THAT'S WHAT YOU CAME HERE TO SAY, ISN'T IT?

NO, NORMAN. NOT AT ALL.

I CAME HERE TO MAKE SURE YOU'RE OKAY. TO MAKE SURE YOU CAN HANDLE ALL THIS. TO MAKE SURE YOU DON'T...

YOU KNOW.

OH.

THIS IS WHAT YOU DO, ISN'T IT? TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR ALL OF US?

IT MUST BE EXHAUSTING. AND IT CAN'T LEAVE A LOT OF SPACE FOR YOUR *OWN* FEELINGS.

MAYBE...

BUT I'M NOT GONNA LET ANYTHING BAD COME OUT OF HER SACRIFICE.

I OWE HER THAT MUCH.

I...I KNOW IT'S NOT WHAT WE *ARE* EXACTLY, BUT I WOULD LIKE TO BE A GOOD FRIEND TO YOU. TO THE EXTENT YOU'LL LET ME.

TO THAT END... YOU DON'T HAVE TO *WORRY* ABOUT *ME.* THE GREEN GOBLIN IS A ROAD I WILL NEVER GO DOWN AGAIN. I'M OKAY.

PROMISE.

I... I *BELIEVE* YOU.

WOW.

I'M SORRY I WORRIED.

IT'S JUST, THE LAST COUPLE OF WEEKS HAVE TRIED REALLY HARD TO PUSH YOU OVER THE LINE.

QUEEN GOBLIN ALONE...

YOU'RE RIGHT.

AND THOUGH I WILL ALWAYS BE...CONFLICTED BY MY ROLE IN HER DEATH, WE CAN BOTH TAKE SOLACE IN ONE FACT...

"...THAT SHE'S GONE *FOREVER.*"

YOU'RE LATE, SHELBY.

RAVENCROFT

A-ARE YOU *SURE?* I THOUGHT THE SCHEDULE HAD A TYPO.

TYPO?

ASHLEY KAFKA WAS *CREMATED* FOR STAFF *SAFETY.* HOW ARE WE SUPPOSED TO DO AN *AUTOPSY?*

FIRST WEEK AT RAVENCROFT?

KAFKA WAS *OFFICIALLY* CREMATED. AND YOU WERE SUPPOSED TO MEET ME FIFTEEN MINUTES AGO FOR HER *UNOFFICIAL* AUTOPSY.

PSY

UNOFFICIAL AUTOPSY?

WE THOUGHT QUEEN GOBLIN WAS INFECTED WITH A BIO-AUGMENTING CHEMICAL...BUT HER TISSUE IS CLEAN.

THAT MEANS SHE WAS EMPOWERED BY SOME SORT OF SELF-EXPRESSING, MALEVOLENT FORCE. WE'VE NEVER SEEN ANYTHING LIKE IT.

YOU THINK WE'RE JUST GONNA CHUCK HER BODY IN A FURNACE? USE YOUR BRAIN, *DIP--*

GEEYARK!

HOLY #$%&!

HSSSSSSSSSS!

I WANT A RETRACTION! I WANT AN APOLOGY!

I...I WANT YOUR HEAD ON A PIKE!

"EX-MAYOR RAMPAGES"?! IT WAS A PRIVATE WARDROBE MALFUNCTION! YOU EXPLOITED A TRAGEDY TO SELL PAPERS!

HOW DO I KNOW???

BECAUSE I USED TO DO IT ALL THE TIME!

YORK BULLETIN

EX-MAYOR RAMPAGES

WHERE DID YOU GET THE PHOTO?! WHO SOLD ME OUT?!

"PROTECT YOUR SOURCES"?!

YOUR PAPER IS A TRUMPED-UP TABLOID BUTT-RAG! MAYBE BIGFOOT CAN'T TAKE YOU TO COURT, BUT I SURE AS HELL CAN!

YOU LISTEN TO ME. I'M GONNA COME DOWN THERE, AND--

HOLD ON!

WHAT?!

zzzzt?

...I'M GONNA HAVE TO CALL YOU BACK.

YOU'RE J
RD PERSC
CHEDUL
FOR.

OT
NSIBLE?
'M THE
WHO--

ARE
WE DO
THIS?

WE'RE TALKING ABOUT CONNECTING MY NERVOUS SYSTEM TO THE APPENDAGES OF MY GREATEST ENEMY...

GIVE ME A

WE'VE GOT A MAN DOWN!

OSCORP

SIR, YOU CAN'T--!

I NEED PETER PARKER!

GET THE HELL OUT OF MY WAY, EGGHEAD!

HANES

I'M THE JANITOR.

PETER! THANK GOD I FOUND YOU...

JONAH?

LOOK WHAT THEY DID TO HIM.

EXCUSE ME, ARE THOSE OTTO OCTAVIUS'S MECHANICAL ARMS?

WHAT HAPPENED?

I DON'T KNOW. THEY TURNED UP ON MY DOORSTEP LIKE THIS.

CAN YOU PUT 'EM BACK TOGETHER?

NO. ABSOLUTELY NOT. THOSE BELONG TO *DOCTOR OCTOPUS.*

PLEASE ***REMOVE*** THEM FROM MY FACILITY.

OSBORN, YOU HEARTLESS GHOUL! WHAT DID THESE THINGS EVER DO TO YOU?!

TRIED TO KILL ME. ***MANY TIMES.***

OH, ***YOU*** CAN CHANGE BUT ***THEY*** CAN'T?!

HE'S RIGHT, NORMAN.

HRMPH!

THESE THINGS WERE ACTING AUTONOMOUSLY LAST TIME I SAW THEM. THEY...THEY SAVED MY LIFE.

YOU'RE ***KIDDING*** ME.

CAN WE AT LEAST TRY TO HELP THEM?

PETER...

IT ALL HAPPENED IN **ASM #900!** --NATTERING NICK

FINE. TAKE THEM TO LAB THREE.

ATTA ***GOBLIN!***

I KNEW THERE WAS A HEART BEATING IN THERE SOMEWHERE!

gwarble gwarble gwarble

HIDEOUS.

THIS GODLESS MACHINE HAS A FOUL TEMPER, OCTAVIUS.

IT HAS *MY* TEMPER, SERGEI.

MY PREVIOUS *APPENDAGES* EXPRESSED AN ABHORRENT PART OF MY PERSONALITY I FOUND HIDING IN THE VENTROMEDIAL CORTICES OF MY PREFRONTAL LOBE.

I WON'T MAKE THAT MISTAKE AGAIN. THE NEW ONES ARE ALL *AMYGDALA.*

PURE AGGRESSION TO FUEL MY *REVENGE.*

A *TOY...*

...UNDERCUTTING YOUR MYTHIC STRUGGLE WITH THE SPIDER.

AH, SERGEI. SUCH A FOCUSED HUNTER YOU DON'T SEE THE FOREST...

gwarble gwarble gwarble

I HAVE TO GO TO *WORK.*

WHAT HAPPENED?! A-ARE THEY OKAY?

THEY'RE FINE. NORMAN'S JUST FINISHING UP.

WHAT?! WHY AREN'T *YOU* IN THERE?!

NORMAN'S THE EXPERT WHEN IT COMES TO OTTO'S TECH. THERE'S A HISTORY THERE--

YEAH, WELL, I DON'T LIKE THE WAY HE WAS LOOKING AT THEM!

IF HE LEAVES SO MUCH AS A *SCRATCH*--

JONAH! EASY! WHAT'S GOTTEN INTO YOU?

LAST TIME I SAW YOU WITH THOSE ARMS, THEY WERE HOLDING YOU HOSTAGE.

NOW YOU'RE ACTING LIKE THEY'RE THE *FAMILY PET.*

WELL...MAYBE THEY STARTED COMING AROUND MY PLACE MORE OFTEN. JUST TO STAY OUT OF THE RAIN, THEN MAYBE FOR A WARM PLACE TO SLEEP.

AND MAYBE I TRIED TO CHASE THEM OFF AT FIRST...BUT MAYBE I STARTED LOOKING FORWARD TO THEM COMING AROUND.

CURLING UP ON THE BED...

KEEPING MY FEET WARM...

JOHN JONAH JAMESON. YOU OLD *SOFTY.*

I...I JUST DON'T THINK I COULD HANDLE IT IF SOMETHING BAD HAPPENED TO THEM...

HEY, YOU DON'T EVEN HAVE TO WORRY.

THEY'RE IN GOOD HANDS...

LAB NOTE: REPAIRS WERE RELATIVELY SIMPLE OWING TO THE DEVICE'S DESIGN PHILOSOPHY.

SPECIFICALLY, COMMUNICATION-FLOW PRIORITIZATION BETWEEN APPENDAGES AND NERVOUS-SYSTEM INTERFACE, PRESUMABLY TO PROVIDE STIMULATING FEEDBACK FROM RADIATION.

THIS GREATLY SIMPLIFIED DIAGNOSTIC INTERFACE AND FACILITATED TARGETED REPAIR.

IN LAYMAN'S TERMS:

ALL DONE.

CLTCH

ZZ+?

HOW IS OUR PATIENT FEELING?

ZZZZT?

ZZT ZZZT ZZZT!

STOP THAT! I'M TRYING TO HELP YOU!

Hnng!

WHERE DO YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING?!

WHAT? IT'S JUST SIMPLE DIAGNOSTICS CABLE!

OR IS THAT WHAT YOU'RE TRYING TO...

SYSTEM COMPROMISED

OH NO.

I BELIEVE NORMAN OSBORN HAS JUST LEARNED THE DANGERS OF TAKING IN *STRAYS*.

AND NOW FOR A SECOND LESSON: IF YOU TAKE FROM OTTO OCTAVIUS, DON'T PUT YOUR *NAME* ON YOUR BUILDING.

OSCO

NOT IF YOU EXPECT TO KEEP IT.

gwarble

gwarble gwarble

LET'S GO, BOYS.

gwarble

gwarble gwarble

gwarble

gwarble

gwarble

HELLO, SIR! DO YOU HAVE AN APPOINTMENT?

I DO NOT.

EEEEEEEEEE!

HEY! IT'S ON MY COMPUTER!

HAVE A GREAT DAY.

CHECK!

IT'S EMAILING MY EX!

GET 'EM OFF ME!

gwarble

gwarble

TH

O-OH, GOD! ONE WENT UP MY LEG!

KNOCK KNOCK.

PETER! THE ARMS WERE A TROJAN HORSE!

OTTO'S CODE IS IN THE SYSTEM!

IT'S NOT JUST HIS CODE!

OTTO IS HERE.

SHOULDN'T YOU BE GETTING CHANGED?

DON'T WORRY. THE SECURITY DOORS ARE STRONGER THAN ANYTHING OTTO IS CAPABLE OF. BY DESIGN.

SECURITY

gwarble gwarble

ALL RIGHT, MY OCKTOIDS.

EVERYONE HOLD HANDS.

gwarble gwarble gwarble gwarble gwarble gwarble gwarble gwarble

CLUTCH!

RRRRRRENNGGG

SECURITY BREACH.

SECURITY BREACH.

COUNTERMEASURES INITIATED.

OOH... COUNTERMEASURES.

THROW IT ALL AT ME, OSBORN. WHATEVER OBSTACLES YOUR GENIUS CAN DEVISE.

I'LL FIND THE CHALLENGE A TANTALIZING AMUSE-BOUCHE BEFORE I--

ZEEP ZEEP!

DEAR SWEET HOLY GOD, WHAT IS THAT?!

THAT'S BUG.

ME AND BUG WANT YOU TO LEAVE.

AFFIRMATIVE.

HA HA HA!

NEVER!

OCKTOIDS!

SWARM!

CAREFUL!

MULTIPLE TARGETS INCOMING.

gWarble

gWarble

gwarble

gwarble

OKAY, THIS IS NEW.

BUG! GET ME SCHEMATICS ON THESE THINGS, I NEED--

BUG!

gwarble

gwarble

GAH!!! I DON'T KNOW WHY I BOTHER *FIXING* THAT THING...

--hurk!

YOUR MACHINES ARE *PLAYTHINGS*, SPIDER-MAN!

TRIFLES!

MINE ARE ENGINES OF DESTRUCTION!

CRASH

ARGH

THEY DON'T PAUSE TO BE CUTE!

THEY DON'T OFFER RETORTS!

SMASH

Hnng!

THEY ARE MADE FOR ONE PURPOSE.

TO IMPOSE MY WILL.

G-G-GARK...

GO ON. I'M WAITING FOR ONE OF YOUR CLASSIC *BON MOTS.*

CRRNCH

ZZZT

Nnnn... nnnn...

WHAT'S THAT? COME ON, BOY.

SPEAK UP.

Nnnn... nnnn...

...nnnn...

HE'S TRYING TO SAY "NORMAN."

AS IN OSBORN.

I HAVE TWENTY WAYS TO PUT YOU DOWN IN THIS THING, OCTAVIUS.

DON'T MAKE ME PICK ONE.

WHAT CAN I SAY, NORMAN? I'M A CURIOUS CAT.

DO YOUR WORST.

I WAS HOPING YOU'D SAY...

GZZT

...SAY THAT?

SYSTEMS COMPROMISED.

SYSTEMS COMPROMISED?

AFTER CHASM'S ATTACK, I--

REWROTE YOUR TECH'S ENCRYPTION FROM THE *GROUND UP.*

PITY YOUR STOOGE ALLOWED ONE OF HIS *SPIDER-BOMBS* TO COME INTO MY POSSESSION.

SHRT SHRT SHRT

BLAM!

AEEEEEEE!

THUNK

DO YOU FEEL MY NEW POWER, SPIDER-MAN? DO YOU FEEL YOUR *INSIGNIFICANCE?*

CAN'T GET MY LUNGS TO TAKE IN AIR.

BODY IN SHOCK.

D-DON'T...

CAN'T...

BE THANKFUL FOR IT.

CAN'T...

IT'S THE ONLY THING THAT KEPT YOU ALIVE.

I DIDN'T FORGET WHAT YOU DID TO ME, *GOBLIN KING.*

WHAT YOU TOOK FROM ME.

IMAGINE ALL I WILL TAKE FROM *YOU.*

THEM. TOGETHER. TELL THEM WHAT HAPPENED.

I HAVE THEIR WORD

KE A SAY N'T

THEN Y
EE VERY
INDEE

OT
FOR
H.

N
RESPO
BUT I
ONE

STAY STILL--

RELAX, WILL YA?!

IF YOU'RE GONNA BE A BABY--

--DON'T LOOK DOWN.

HE'S LOOKING DOWN, ISN'T HE?

QUIT SQUIRMING!

YOU DO THIS TO PEOPLE ALL THE TIME!

KIRBY

AAAA

YOU'LL BE SAFE HERE!

OOF!

WHATEVER OTTO DID TO OSCORP'S COMPUTERS-- THEY WERE GOING *CRAZY.*

NORMAN...

OTTO HAS NORMAN.

DID YOU SEE WHERE HE TOOK HIM?

DOES ANYONE KNOW WHERE NORMAN OSBORN IS?!

I'VE FIGURED OUT EVERY SINGLE LITTLE THING ABOUT YOU, OCTAVIUS.

I'M GOING TO TAKE *EVERYTHING* AWAY FROM YOU.

Hnnnnn...

CHEZ OCTAVIUS, THE HOUSE WHERE YOU GREW UP.

BOOM.

THE LAB WHERE YOU HAD YOUR OCTOPUS-RELATED ACCIDENT.

BOOM.

ALL OF DOC OCK'S GREATEST INVENTIONS UNDER LOCK AND KEY.

BOOM.

THE *BOTTLING PLANT* WHERE YOU SAVED ALL THOSE PEOPLE FROM BEING BLOWN UP.

BOOM.

AND THOSE METAL ARMS... BASED ON YOUR OLD DESIGNS?

SO PATHETICALLY **EASY** TO HIJACK. FOR A **REAL** GENIUS.

AGH!

AARGHHHH!

THAT'S ENOUGH.

HNNNGH!

WHA... WHAT ARE YOU *DOING* TO ME?!

gWarble

COMPELLING IMAGES, AREN'T THEY, NORMAN?

gWarble

TH-THOSE ARE *YOUR* MEMORIES--

OF *YOUR* ACTIONS. YES. A REMINDER OF WHAT YOU TOOK FROM ME...OF THE DEBT I'VE COME TO COLLECT.

WHAT *IS* THAT THING?

I'VE BEEN ON A JOURNEY OF *SELF-DISCOVERY...*

...USING THIS TRIFLE THE *BEYOND CORPORATION* SALVAGED FROM *PARKER INDUSTRIES.*

THERE ARE PARTS OF MY MEMORY THAT HAVE BEEN TAKEN FROM ME--I SUSPECT SOMETHING INFURIATINGLY SUPERNATURAL--AND I'D HOPED THIS CONTAINED THEM.

IT DID NOT... BUT IT DID HOLD THE RECORD OF YOU--IMPOSSIBLY-- *OUTSMARTING ME.*

IF YOU WANTED ME TO FEEL *SHAME,* YOUR WISH WAS *FULFILLED!*

BUT NOW *I* HAVE OUTSMARTED *YOU.* I HACKED *YOUR* COSTUME. I BLEW UP *YOUR* LIFE.

IT IS *YOU* WHO ARE SHAMED.

SAY IT!

SAY IT IS YOU WHO ARE SHAMED!

gwarble gwarble gwarble gwarble

ER...

IT IS I WHO AM SHAMED.

I APPRECIATE YOUR HONESTY.

NOW WE CAN *REALLY* GET TO WORK.

OTTO HAS TO HAVE TAKEN NORMAN TO SOME KIND OF *HIDEOUT.*

AND *THOSE ARMS* MUST HAVE SOME IDEA *WHERE IT IS.*

TAKE IT EASY ON 'EM. LOOKS LIKE THEY TUCKERED THEMSELVES OUT GETTING US HERE.

I THINK THEY'RE TAKING A NAP.

JONAH, I KNOW YOU'VE GROWN ATTACHED TO THOSE ARMS, BUT THEY'RE HOW OTTO GOT ACCESS TO *OSCORP* TO BEGIN WITH!

HEY! I KNOW THESE THINGS, AND THERE'S ***NO WAY*** *THEY KNEW ANYTHING ABOUT THAT!*

CLANK

CLACK

HUH?

CLANK CLACK

CLANK CLACK

ZZZZZZZT!

AAAAAH!

WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?!

CLANK

CLACK

CLANK

CLACK

GET THESE THINGS OFF ME!

MY LAMP!

YOUR PET GREW TEETH AND TRIED TO EAT ME! I DON'T CARE ABOUT YOUR LAMP!

THOSE AREN'T TEETH! THOSE ARE--

OKAY, I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT THOSE ARE.

WAIT A MINUTE. I THINK...I THINK THAT MIGHT BE A SPINAL INTERFACE.

IT MUST BE HOW HE CONNECTS HIS NERVOUS SYSTEM TO THE ARMS.

IT WANTS TO CONNECT WITH YOU?

I THINK SO?

I GUESS THAT'S...KIND OF FLATTERING. RIGHT?

RIGHT?

ELSEWHERE.

EEEE

HEAR THIS, PUPPY IMPRISONERS OF YORK CITY NEW TOWN...

...NONE OF YOU ARE SAFE!

SO SAYS THE WEB-WHANGING WARRIOR

REK-RAP!

THWAP!

THAT'S RIGHT, TRUE BELIEVER, **REK-RAP IS BACK!** WILL HE HELP SPIDER-MAN?! Probably not. WILL HE SAVE THE CITY?! Certainly not. WILL HE NOT SHOW UP UNTIL A LATER STORY ARC, BUT WE DIDN'T WANT YOU TO FORGET HIM AND ED REALLY WANTED TO DRAW HIM?! YES! --NL

YOU CAN FOOL *THEM*, BUT YOU'LL NEVER FOOL *ME*.

I *KNOW* THIS IDEA THAT YOU'RE REFORMED IS A *RUSE*. I'VE STOLEN EVERY OSCORP FILE FROM YOUR MAINFRAME. I'M BREAKING THE ENCRYPTION NOW.

YOUR MASTER PLAN WILL SOON BE KNOWN TO ME. I WILL *EXPOSE* IT, AND THEN I WILL *DESTROY* IT.

OTTO...

THERE IS NO MASTER PLAN.

YOU HEAR THE WHIR OF MY MACHINES? IT WON'T BE LONG NOW.

ARE YOU SWEATING YET?

I'M QUITE COMFORTABLE.

THERE IS NO MASTER PLAN.

HA!

WE'LL SEE ABOUT THAT.

tcch tcch tcch

ELECTRIC-PLASMA JET ENGINE?!

...THE #$%& CARES ABOUT AN ELECTRIC-PLASMA JET ENGINE?!

WHAT ARE YOU HIDING?!

gwarble

KRAK

HNNG!

TELL ME YOUR PLAN SO I MAY BLOW IT UP IN FRONT OF YOU!

OTTO... I'M NOT LYING.

I AM SINCERELY TRYING TO MAKE UP FOR THE HARM I'VE CAUSED.

WE'LL SEE ABOUT THAT.

ARE WE *DOING* THIS?!

WE'RE TALKING ABOUT CONNECTING MY NERVOUS SYSTEM TO THE APPENDAGES OF MY GREATEST ENEMY...

GIVE ME A *SECOND.*

IF THESE THINGS KNOW WHERE NORMAN IS, *THIS* IS HOW THEY WANT TO TELL YOU.

NO USE BEING A *BABY* ABOUT IT.

...

OKAY.

I'M READY.

COME ON, PETER.

SOMETIMES YOU CAN'T MAKE AN OMELET WITHOUT JAMMING SOME SPIKES INTO YOUR SPINAL CORD.

CLICH

DO YOU FEEL ANYTHING?

I *THINK* SO?

IT KIND OF TICKLES. IT'S NOT SO BAD.

WAIT, NO. THERE IT IS...

THAT'S BAD!

THAT'S BAD!

GAAAAIIEEEEEEEEEE! GAAAAHH!

SMACK

CUT THAT OUT!

YOU GET AN OTTO EPIDURAL AND THEN YOU CUT IT OUT!

GUH... GUH... OH, WOW. THAT'S WEIRD.

WHY DO I FEEL LIKE I'VE *MISSED* THIS?

ARE YOU OKAY?

I NEED TOOLS.

YOU'RE A FRAUD, NORMAN! FIGHT BACK!

SHOW ME THE GOBLIN INSIDE YOU!

ARGH!

CRACK

BECAUSE I WASN'T ALLOWED TO!

TH-THE GOBLIN IS *GONE*, OTTO. I'VE CHANGED.

WHY CAN'T YOU ACCEPT THAT?

WH-WHAT? WHY DID I SAY THAT?

MY GOD. DID I TRY TO--?

IS *THAT* WHAT I'VE FORGOTTEN?

NEVER MIND! I'M NOT HERE FOR INTROSPECTION! I'M HERE FOR ***REVENGE.***

AND IF YOU HAVE TRULY FREED YOURSELF OF THE ***GOBLIN...***

...THEN THAT IS WHAT I'LL TAKE FROM YOU!

BRING IT TO ME.

BRING WHAT?

WHAT ARE YOU DOING, OTTO?

I HOPE YOU HAVE CONVINCED YOURSELF YOU'RE *GOOD*, NORMAN.

I HOPE THAT WARM FANTASY COMFORTS YOU AT NIGHT.

BECAUSE YOU'RE ABOUT TO LOSE IT...

...TO THIS!

CAN'T BELIEVE NORMAN GAVE YOU A KEY TO HIS APARTMENT.

HE GAVE IT TO ME IN CASE I EVER NEEDED TO CHECK ON HIM...

TO MAKE SURE HE WASN'T UP TO NO GOOD.

AND HERE I AM, *PLAYING WITH OTTO'S TOYS.*

BUT HOW AM I WORKING SO FAST?

WHY IS THIS SO EASY?

SICKO...

IT'S LIKE THE ARMS AREN'T TELLING ME HOW TO FIX THEM...

...THEY'RE *REMINDING ME.*

JONAH?

HOLY CROW...

AN OCTOPUS ISN'T THE ONLY THING WITH EIGHT LEGS.

DON'T *DO* THIS, OTTO! YOU'VE *OUTSMARTED ME!*

YOU'VE *WON!*

THAT WAS NEVER IN QUESTION. IT WAS *INEVITABLE.*

I CAN *FEEL* IT. YOU TOOK SOMETHING FROM ME I CAN NEVER GET BACK. AND NOW IT'S MY TURN...

...TO DO THE SAME.

WHAT *IS* THAT?!

OTTO! DON'T DO THIS!

AND WASTE IT?

ARE YOU KIDDING ME? DO YOU KNOW HOW HARD THIS WAS TO MAKE?

PLEASE!

NO!

YES.

Lee Garbett

#27 VARIANT

Lucas Werneck

#27 PRIDE VARIANT

Olivier Coipel

#28 VARIANT

Lucas Werneck

#28 PRIDE VARIANT

THEM. TOGETHER. TELL THEM WHAT HAPPENED.

I HAVE THEIR WORD

KE A SAY N'T

DO YOU *FEEL* IT, NORMAN? THE GOBLIN SERUM COURSING THROUGH YOUR VEINS?

YOU HAVE *NO IDEA* WHAT YOU'VE *DONE*, *OCTAVIUS*...

OH YES I *DO*.

I'M SHOWING THEM ALL YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED *A BIT*...

...THAT UNDER IT ALL, YOU'RE STILL A *VILLAIN*.

Heh. Heh heh.

YES...LET YOURSELF GO.

LET THE GOBLIN OUT...

HA! HAHA HAHA!

YOU SHOULD HAVE LISTENED TO ME, OTTO!

BECAUSE YOU'RE AN *IDIOT.*

WH-WHAT?!

TH-THAT WAS ENOUGH *GOBLIN SERUM* TO TURN AN *ELEPHANT!*

AND I ALREADY HAVE *DOUBLE* THAT RUNNING THROUGH MY VEINS.

MY BODY HAS ABSORBED A *MASSIVE* AMOUNT OVER THE YEARS. IT'S *TEEMING* WITH IT. I LEARNED TO MANAGE ITS EFFECTS *LONG AGO.*

IMPOSSIBLE...

IMPOSSIBLE THAT I BECAME THE GREEN GOBLIN NOT BECAUSE OF THE SERUM BUT BECAUSE OF THE EVIL *INSIDE* ME?

AN EVIL THAT HAS BEEN *CLEANSED.* AN EVIL A BUFFOON LIKE YOU COULD NEVER DREAM OF RESURRECTING.

DO NOT CALL ME A--

CRACK

--BUFFOON!

KA-BOOM

IF YOUR INTELLIGENCE WERE EQUAL TO MINE, YOU WOULD NOT BE AT MY *MERCY.*

Hnng!

MERCY THAT HAS COME TO AN END!

SO, YOU KNOW WHERE OTTO'S KEEPING NORMAN?

THE *ARMS* KNOW. SO I DO TOO.

WE'RE EXCHANGING INFORMATION THROUGH THE *SPINAL INTERFACE.* IT FEELS WEIRD...BUT MY BODY ADJUSTED TO IT WHEN OTTO TOOK UP SHOP IN MY BODY.

YOU *DO* LOOK COMFORTABLE IN THOSE THINGS.

MAYBE *TOO* COMFORTABLE.

YOU DARE QUESTION *ME, YOU DOLT?!*

I SHOULD PROBABLY GET GOING.

YEP, BETTER WRAP THIS UP AND GET OUT OF THOSE THINGS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

AGREED...

...BECAUSE I'M AFRAID I COULD GET *USED* TO THIS.

gwarble

gwarble

I HAD HOPED TO TAKE *EVERYTHING* FROM YOU, NORMAN.

YOUR *EVIL SCHEMES.*

THIS SILLY IDEA YOU'D REFORMED...

BUT YOU TOOK THAT AWAY FROM ME BY BEING THE MOST BORING, *PATHETIC* VERSION OF YOURSELF I'VE EVER SEEN.

GUH...

SO NOW ALL I CAN DO IS *TAKE YOUR LIFE!* LET ME INTRODUCE YOU TO THE *HYPER-VOLTAGE COIL* POWERING MY LAB.

O-OTTO, WAIT...

I DON'T THINK I WILL! BECAUSE YOU DID THE ONE THING I'D ONLY ADMIT TO SOMEONE I WAS ABOUT TO KILL...

...YOU *OUTSMARTED* ME.

OTTO! YOU THOUGHT YOU COULD *HIDE* YOUR LAB FROM *ME*?!

PUT. HIM. DOWN.

YOU PRESUME TO GIVE ORDERS TO ME?!

I WILL NOT RELEASE OSBORN UNTIL--

W-WAIT! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?! *DON'T LISTEN TO HIM!*

HOW ARE YOU CONFUSING MY OCKTOIDS?!

MAYBE THEY RECOGNIZE THE VOICE OF *TRUE AUTHORITY.*

WH-WHY DO YOU SOUND LIKE *THAT?*

LIKE... *ME.*

YOU DIDN'T...

YOU *DID...*

YOU SPINE-LOCKED WITH MY ARMS!

I DID! THE *DIE* IS *CAST!*

CLANG

BAH! YOU'RE A *CHILD* PLAYING WITH A *GUN!* YOU'RE GOING TO *HURT YOURSELF!*

HA! I DON'T THINK SO! THANKS TO YOU, THIS IS ALL *MUSCLE MEMORY.*

WE WILL SEE WHO IS TRULY *SUPERIOR.*

YOU CANNOT OUT-OCTOPUS ME, *DOLT!*

WE SHALL SEE, DOLT!

WHO ARE YOU CALLING DOLT...

...YOU DOLT?!

YOUR MECHANICAL ARMS WERE THE *ONLY* REASON YOU WERE EVER A THREAT, OTTO.

THEY GAVE YOU AN *ADVANTAGE.*

AND THAT *ADVANTAGE* IS *GONE!*

HA...

YOU THINK THE OCTOPUS TAKES ITS PREY BY *RAW POWER?*

FOOL!

YOU'VE ONLY FALLEN INTO MY TRAP!

Hnnng...

DON'T BE ASHAMED OF YOUR FATE, SPIDER-MAN.

YOU'VE BEEN *HARVESTED* BY AN *APEX PREDATOR.*

MAYBE Y-YOU GOT ME...BUT I'VE *GOT YOU TOO.*

IF I TOUCH THAT COIL...WE *BOTH* FRY...

YES, IF ONLY I'D TAKEN THE TIME TO PLAN FOR THAT.

OCKTOIDS! DETACH!

NOW I HAVE ONLY TO *WATCH* MY INVENTION SEAL YOUR FATE.

Y-YOU'RE GONNA BREAK YOUR NEW TOY, OTTO.

A SMALL PRICE TO PAY!

WHA--?

CLICH

ARMS DETACHING... TELLING ME TO SAVE MYSELF...

No!

WE'RE IN THIS TOGETHER.

WE'RE GONNA BEAT HIM-- TOGETHER!

THIS IS WHY I WILL ALWAYS WIN.

I WILL SACRIFICE ALL TO DESTROY MY ENEMIES.

NO PRICE IS TOO GREAT FOR MY REVENGE.

AND MY OCKTOIDS ARE PERFECT UNITS OF MYSELF.

THEY WILL GLADLY DESTROY THEMSELVES FOR MY FURY.

Hnnng...

YOU SHOULD NEVER HAVE TOUCHED MY THINGS, SPIDER-MAN.

AND *YOU* SHOULD NEVER HAVE LET GO OF THEM...

...BECAUSE NOW THERE'S *NOTHING STOPPING ME!*

OOOF!

OCKTOIDS! PROTECT ME!

I HOPE YOU'VE ENJOYED HAVING THE UPPER HAND... BECAUSE NOW I HAVE *FOUR OF THEM!*

TOO SLOW, OTTO.

YOU FORGOT ABOUT ME.

GAK!

IT MUST TAKE A LOT OF CONCENTRATION TO KEEP A BUNCH OF LITTLE *YOUS* WORKING TOGETHER...

...AND I'M NOT GONNA GIVE YOU THAT CHANCE!

S-sTOP... I c-CAN'T... B-BREATHE...

WHAT A *PITY*...

--GAK.

WHOA!

SPIDER-MAN! STOP! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!

HUH?

--KAK.

OTTO?

K-K--

OOPS.

Guh.

MAYBE HELP ME OUT OF THESE THINGS? I THINK THEY MIGHT BE A BAD INFLUENCE.

ON IT.

THWAK!

GAAAH!

ZZZZZZZZZZZZ!!

STOP!

IT'S TIME FOR US TO GO OUR SEPARATE WAYS!

OTTO'S USED *BOTH* OF US IN THE PAST. AND WHEN WE GET TOGETHER...A LITTLE TOO MUCH OTTO SHOWS UP.

WE'RE NOT GOOD FOR EACH OTHER.

BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN WE'RE NOT *FRIENDS*, OKAY?

ZZZT

ZZZT

CLUCH

GOOD BOY.

SPIDER-MAN! THE OCKTOIDS!

OH NO...

THEY'VE GOT OTTO!

gWarble

gWarble

SMASH

HE'S IN THE TUNNELS!

bzzt bzzt

NICE TRY. WE'RE SPLITTING UP.

LET'S MOVE, PEOPLE!

LATER...

GO EASY ON YOURSELF. THOSE TUNNELS WERE *DESIGNED* FOR OTTO TO ESCAPE.

THAT'S EXACTLY IT. IN THE END, *HE GOT ME.*

NO...HE *ESCAPED.* HE *WANTED* BOTH OF US *DEAD.*

HE DIDN'T *GET* EITHER OF US.

IN FACT, I THINK HE GAVE THE BOTH OF US A GIFT...

...A MUCH NEEDED DISTRACTION.

FROM KAMALA.

YES. IT'S FUNNY, IN MY DAYS OF *EVIL*, I NEVER CONSIDERED THE PEOPLE I HURT. THE ONES I LOST. BUT NOW...

I CAN'T STOP THINKING ABOUT THINGS SHE DID. ONE TIME I HAD COFFEE BROUGHT TO THE LAB, AND WHEN SHE HANDED ME MINE SHE SAID, "LARGE COFFEE, EXTRA SERUM." IT WAS A TERRIBLE JOKE, AND SHE WAS INSTANTLY EMBARRASSED...

...BUT AFTER THAT, EVERY TIME I ORDERED A COFFEE I WOULD ASK FOR "EXTRA SERUM" AND WE WOULD BOTH SMILE.

I KNOW SHE WAS THERE TO CATCH ME IN SOME NEFARIOUS PLOT, BUT I LIKED HER. AND I THINK SHE LIKED ME.

BECAUSE SHE WAS *GOOD*. AND GOOD IS SO MUCH MORE *INTERESTING* THAN EVIL.

RABIN THOUGHT HIS *EVIL* MADE HIM A *GOD*, BUT IT ONLY MADE HIM *BLIND*. NOTHING HE SAID IS WORTH PONDERING OR REPEATING.

BUT KAMALA MADE ME SMILE EVERY TIME I HAD A COFFEE, AND SHE BROUGHT DOWN RABIN'S ENTIRE PLAN BY SAVING *ONE LIFE*.

AND SO MAYBE WE CAN TAKE OUR MIND *OFF* ALL THE EVIL FOR A MOMENT. BECAUSE I'M NOT SURE IT HAS THAT MUCH POWER.

IN THE HEIGHT OF MY MADNESS I THOUGHT THE NATURAL STATE OF HUMANITY WAS TO EXPLOIT AND ABUSE EACH OTHER.

BUT IT SEEMS IF TWO PEOPLE SPEND ENOUGH TIME TOGETHER, THE MUCH GREATER RISK IS THAT THEY WILL BECOME *FRIENDS*.

I GUESS IT HELPS IF ONE OF THOSE PEOPLE IS *KAMALA KHAN*.

HA. I GUESS IT DOES, PETER.

I GUESS IT DOES.

THEM. TOGETHER. TELL THEM WHAT HAPPENED.

I HAVE THEIR WORD

AND YOU'RE SAYING WE'RE SAFE?

PERFECTLY SAFE.

THEN Y
SEE VERY
INDEE

FOR
H.

N
RESPO
BUT I
ONE

PRELUDE:

Your Presence Is Requested...

ARTHUR AVENUE.
THE BRONX.

CRNCH CRNCH

CLEAR.

CHNK

WON'T BE LONG.

YES, SIR.

EH... WHAT'S UP, BOSS?

RABBIT.

THEY'RE WAITIN' FOR YA.

HOW THEY TAKIN' IT?

BAD TO REALLY BAD, I'D SAY.

GOOD DEAL.

YOU'RE LATE.

DENTIST COULDN'T STOP HIS HANDS FROM SHAKING.

MIGHTA BEEN A LITTLE SPOOKED.

HAD TO CAP THE TEETH AGAIN.

YOU MIGHT HAVE HEARD I'VE GOT A WEDDING ON SATURDAY, AND MY BABY'S MARRYING A *SQUARE*.

YEAH, WE HEARD.

NOW SEE, THAT'S *INTERESTING* TO ME. COULDN'T HELP BUT NOTICE NONE OF YOU RSVP'd.

IN FACT, IT'S WHY I CALLED A MEETING.

NOW, THAT'S UNFORTUNATE, BECAUSE WE COULD HAVE CLEARED THIS UP OVER THE PHONE.

WE DON'T THINK IT'S SUCH A GREAT IDEA, US GOING TO THE WEDDING.

THAT SO?

TELL 'IM, OWL.

RUMOR IS THE KINGPIN'S COMING BACK. MIGHT BE HERE ALREADY.

IF HE WANTS TO REBUILD HIS TERRITORY, GATHERING TOGETHER IN PUBLIC MIGHT NOT BE A GOOD IDEA.

IT DOESN'T HELP THAT YOU'VE BEEN USING A SOFTER TOUCH IN YOUR OPERATIONS AS OF LATE.

IT COULD LOOK LIKE WEAKNESS.

I'VE HEARD.

LET ME TELL YOU ALL WHAT'S GONNA HAPPEN.

I'M GONNA GIVE MY BABY GIRL A NICE, CALM, *SAFE* WEDDING IN HARLEM.

AND THAT MEANS EACH ONE OF YOU IS GONNA BE THERE.

BECAUSE THE LAST TIME SOMEONE MADE A MOVE ON ME, IT WASN'T *THE KINGPIN*--

--WHO'S ALWAYS TREATED ME WITH *RESPECT*, BY THE WAY--

--IT WAS SOMEONE IN *THIS* ROOM.

THE ROSE NEVER HAD A SEAT AT THE TABLE, LONNIE.

STILL, I WOULD FEEL BETTER IF EVERYONE WAS THERE ON SATURDAY. SITTING *REAL CLOSE* TO ME. IF NOT, I COULD FIND YOUR ABSENCE... *SUSPICIOUS.*

I TEND TO LOSE THE *SOFT TOUCH.*

WHEN I GET *SUSPICIOUS.*

SEE YOU ON SATURDAY.

FANTASTIC.

Hee...

Hee hee...

I'M SORRY.

CAN I TELL 'EM WHAT I'LL DO TO THEM IF THEY GET OUT OF LINE?

OH GOD. I WOULD *LOVE* IT.

THAT WON'T BE NECESSARY, RABBIT.

SEE YOU ALL SATURDAY.

AND IF YOU DON'T KNOW IT...

...LEARN THE ELECTRIC SLIDE.

DON'T LOVE HOW THAT RABBIT TALKS TO US.

TOMBSTONE'S PRETTY CALM FOR SOMEONE WHO MIXED IT UP WITH A FISK... RIGHT BEFORE THAT FISK ENDED UP IN JAIL.

YOU'RE NOT STILL THINKING TOMBSTONE HAD SOMETHING TO DO WITH *SPIDER-MAN* TAKING DOWN THE ROSE?

I'M *TELLING* YOU! I KNOW WHAT I SAW!

IT DOESN'T MATTER WHAT ***CRIME-MASTER*** SAW! AND IT DOESN'T MATTER WHAT THE OWL THINKS!

IT ONLY MATTERS WHAT THE ***KINGPIN BELIEVES.***

AND IF HE BELIEVES LONNIE HAD SOMETHING TO DO WITH HIS SON ***GETTING GOT...***

...WE MIGHT WANT TO GET AHEAD OF IT.

A MOVE LIKE THAT REQUIRES A ***UNANIMOUS VOTE.***

AND MINE HASN'T CHANGED.

THEN I'LL LET YOU EXPLAIN THAT TO FISK...***WHEN*** HE ASKS.

SEE YOU ALL AT THE WEDDING.

CHAPTER 1:

The Last Night

I RESERVED THAT TABLE THREE MONTHS AGO!

I'M SORRY. IT'S BEING HELD FOR ANOTHER PARTY.

ANOTHER PARTY?!

LISTEN HERE, FRIEND, I WANT YOU TO TAKE A GOOD LOOK AT THE THREE SHE-CATS BEHIND ME.

YEAH, THEY'RE MY BRIDESMAIDS, AND YEAH, WE ATTENDED SARAH LAWRENCE TOGETHER, AND YEAH, WE PARTIED THAT CAMPUS DOWN TO THE STUDS, AND YEAH, YOU CAN PROBABLY GUESS FROM WHAT I JUST SAID THAT EACH ONE IS RIDE OR DIE--

MA'AM--

--AND HELL YEAH, WE HEAVILY PREGAMED AT BUFFALO WILD WINGS!

B-DUBS!

SO DO YOU WANT TO TELL THIS "OTHER PARTY" THAT THEY CAN FIND ANOTHER TABLE, OR DO YOU WANT ME TO--

HUH?

AIIEEEEEEE!

BEGONE, LADIES. YOU BELONG TO A LOWER PHYLUM OF *PARTY.*

HOP, HOP, MOTHER-THUMPERS!

JANICE LINCOLN IS GETTING MARRIED!

WHAT WOULD YOU LADIES LIKE TO DRINK?

ALL OF IT!

HEE HEE...

WE ARE GOING TO *RIP* THIS PLACE *UP.*

YOUR WORK FRIENDS ARE...INTENSE.

BUT DON'T FORGET YOU'RE GETTING MARRIED TOMORROW...THEY'RE SHOWING UP TO *BRAID* YOUR *HAIR* AT *NINE* A.M.

HA! YOU DON'T CHANGE, MICHELE. FEELS LIKE WE'RE BACK AT *COLUMBIA LAW.* NOPE, TONIGHT IS ALL GAS AND NO BRAKES.

I'M NOT GONNA BE OUTDONE BY THE GROOM. CAN YOU IMAGINE THE DEBAUCHERY RANDY IS GETTING UP TO?

SO. ATLANTIC CITY, *HUH?*

YEAH.

WILD STUFF, RIGHT?

WILD STUFF.

I CAN GO GET SOME QUARTERS. TOKENS?

SORRY, DON'T COME HERE A LOT.

UGH! WHAT SMELLS?

GUESS!

WAIT--IS THAT THE CHEESE FROM OUR OLD APARTMENT?

HA! YES IT IS!

REMEMBER?

KEVIN?

ANYWAY.

GREAT WATER.

COME ON, NEW GIRL!

I DON'T REALLY DANCE.

OH, MY GOD! SHE CAME!

IS THAT FELICIA HARDY?

I'M LOOKING FOR JANICE LINCOLN?

YOU INVITED THE BLACK CAT?!

THAT'S RIGHT.

FELICIA! THANKS FOR COMING!

GRAB A DRINK! IT'S MY SPECIAL DAY TOMORROW!

TH-THIS IS YOUR BACHELORETTE PARTY?

IT IS! FUNNY STORY...

SHE RUNS WITH SPIDER-MAN!

SHE'S PRACTICALLY A SUPER HERO!

I WILL TOLERATE HER, BECAUSE THIS IS JANICE'S NIGHT...BUT I AM NOT DANCING WITH THAT STUCK UP--

LATER.

DON'T STOP! GET IT! GET IT!

AHAHA! THIS THE BEST NIGHT OF MY LIFE!

WHAT A BUNCH OF LIARS.

AH, SHE LOOKS FUN.

I COULD BUMP IT DOWN TO *INNOCENT MISREPRESENTATION.*

OH, SORRY. *LAWYER.* MICHELE.

LAWYER? UGH!

OH, YOU KNOW... *DEFENSE* LAWYER.

SO? I DON'T TRUST ANYTHING THAT GOES TO COLLEGE FOR EIGHT YEARS AND DOESN'T DIE.

I ALWAYS LIKED SCHOOL.

LOSER.

YOU'RE WEARING RABBIT EARS.

OH NO! DON'T TELL *THE DEAN?!*

JERK.

NERD.

UH, RABBIT? YOU *SURE* I HAVE TO BE HERE?

YES, KAREEM. YOU'RE ONE OF THE GIRLS!

WHAT ABOUT JOEY?
COULDN'T MAKE IT.
CODY?
HE'S IN RHODE ISLAND.
JOSH?
SORRY.
YOU'RE TELLING ME *JOSH KITTLING* COULDN'T MAKE IT TO MY BACHELOR PARTY?
YOU HAVE TO UNDERSTAND...THEY MAYBE DIDN'T ALL GET...
...YOU KNOW...
...ENOUGH WARNING...
...*EXACTLY.*
PETER. WHAT DID YOU *DO?*
I'M SORRY! I GET BUSY! AND CERTAIN THINGS...SLIP MY MIND. I THOUGHT I CALLED EVERYONE...AND THEN IT TURNED OUT I *HADN'T.*
YOU KNOW ME.
YEP. NOPE. SAY NO MORE.
I CERTAINLY *KNOW YOU.*
WHAT ARE YOU BOYS DRINKING?
WATER FOR ME.
:SIGH:
WHAT?

WOOOO HOOOO! WHAT WAS THAT!

THEY CALL IT A VICTOR VON BOOM.

IT DIDN'T TASTE STRONG.

OH, GIRL. FAMOUS LAST WORDS.

OH, MY GOD! YOU KNOW WHAT WE SHOULD DO?

YOU'RE GONNA SAY *COSTUMES*, AREN'T YOU?!

I WAS GONNA SAY COSTUMES!

COSTUMES!

WHOA. HOLD UP. AS YOUR YOUR LEGAL COUNSEL FOR THE NIGHT, I CAN'T RECOMMEND THAT.

I DON'T KNOW. COSTUMES SOUND LIKE A *GAS* TO ME.

COS-TUMES! COS-TUMES! *COS-TUMES!*

COSTUMES! COSTUMES! COSTUMES!

I THINK THAT'S MY CUE.

PLEASE...

...TAKE ME WITH YOU.

'SSSCUSE ME, GENNLEMEN...

WE'RE GOIN' TO THE CANADIAN BALLET!

WOOOOOO! KYLER'S GETTING MARRIED!

HEY. YOU COULD GO WITH THEM.

WHAT? NO! GROSS!

YEAH. AGREED.

OGART

ALWAYS FEELS LIKE DIET HUMAN TRAFFICKING...

YEAH, NEVER BEEN A FAN.

WELL, WE DO HAVE A WEDDING TOMORROW...MAYBE WE SHOULD HIT THE HAY.

BUT I GUESS THAT WAS TOO MUCH TO ASK.

MY GOD. I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU DID IT TO ME *AGAIN*.

DID WHAT?

MADE THE NIGHT ABOUT YOU!

I DON'T--

YOU DO, PETER. THIS THING YOU ALWAYS DO... SHOWING UP LATE. LEAVING EARLY.

IT MAKES EVERYTHING ABOUT YOU! TONIGHT, LETTING YOU PLAN THIS...THAT WAS ME GIVING YOU A CHANCE TO STEP UP. TO SHOW UP FOR YOUR FRIEND. TO *MAKE IT ABOUT ME!*

FOR ONCE!

LADIES NIGHT, MOTHER#$%&#$!!!

Bwahaha! RUN, LITTLE PIGGIES!"

SHOULD WE WORRY ABOUT THEM?

I DON'T KNOW--

RABBIT! SHOULD WE WORRY ABOUT THEM?

NAH. THEY'RE DRUG SMUGGLERS. UNAUTHORIZED. SOME KIND OF *HYDRA SHIPMENT* TO A *RIVAL BOSS.*

YOUR POPS WOULDA HAD ME BUST IT UP ANYWAY.

THEY'RE GOOD.

HA HA.

LOOK AT 'EM DANCE!

QU-QU-QUIT IT!

STOP IT! I CAN'T--

Bwahahaha!

I'M NOT JOINING THE SYNDICATE, BY THE WAY. I WORK *ALONE.*

AH, I FIGURED. BUMMER. WOULDA REALLY GOT SPIDER-MAN'S GOAT.

THERE IT IS.

I'VE GOT ONE OF THOSE TOO. HOW DO YOU MAKE IT WORK? WITH ALL THE... *STUFF* YOU GET UP TO.

HA. WELL, I'M SURE YOU KNOW. WE FIGHT ABOUT IT A LOT.

BUT THERE'S SOMETHING COMFORTING ABOUT IT. HOW HE WON'T STOP TRYING TO MAKE ME QUIT.

LIKE, I KNOW HE CARES. HE'S *IN IT.*

NAH, IT'S NOT LIKE THAT. YOU'RE THE *BEST.* HAD TO TAKE THE SHOT.

AND NOW I CAN SAY BLACK CAT WAS AT MY BACHELORETTE PARTY.

SO YOU'RE REALLY GETTING MARRIED TOMORROW?

YEP. RANDY ROBERTSON. GOOD GUY.

I'D ACTUALLY BE A LITTLE WORRIED IF HE STOPPED.

BUT YOU KNOW WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT.

HEY, PETER.

WE NEED TO TALK.

LOOK, I WASN'T GOING TO *RIDE* IT. I KNOW I'M A GROWN MAN.

I JUST THOUGHT WATCHING IT WOULD CHEER ME UP.

WHAT? NO--

I TALKED TO JOSH. HE SAID YOU GAVE HIM *PLENTY* OF NOTICE.

OH.

SAID HE TOLD YOU HE WASN'T COMING. TONIGHT OR TO THE WEDDING.

...

YEAH.

THAT WHAT THEY *ALL* SAID?

RANDY...

FINE. *FORGET* THEM. NONE OF THEM EVEN TOOK THE *TIME* TO GET TO KNOW HER.

PEOPLE HEAR THE WORD *SUPER VILLAIN* AND THEY FREAK OUT.

I KNOW IT STINKS AND IT FEELS BAD, BUT IN THEIR OWN WAY, THEY'RE TRYING TO BE YOUR FRIEND... AS BEST THEY KNOW HOW.

AND YOU WERE JUST GOING TO LET ME THINK THIS WAS ALL *YOUR* FAULT?

YOU KNOW I WAS GOING TO FIND OUT EVENTUALLY, RIGHT?

YEAH, BUT I FIGURED WE COULD GIVE YOU A FUN NIGHT BEFORE YOU DID.

I THINK I NAILED THAT WITH THE MATCHING HOODIES.

ALL THAT STUFF YOU SAID. IT'S TRUE. I KNOW THAT--

PETER, STOP.

YES, YOU ARE THE ABSOLUTE ***WORST*** WHEN IT COMES TO THE LITTLE THINGS. BUT WHEN IT COMES TO THE BIG STUFF...

YOU'RE MY ***BEST FRIEND.***

SO?

SO ***WHAT?***

IT'S RIGHT THERE.

NO.

ABSOLUTELY NOT.

FINAL ANSWER.

KNEW I COULD GET HIM TO RIDE THAT THING.

PYRRHIC VICTORY AT BEST. BUT IF YOU GO TO ATLANTIC CITY YOU HAVE TO DO *SOMETHING* EMBARASSING.

STILL... IT'S GOOD TO LAUGH.

WHILE YOU CAN.

HI, PETER.

FELICIA?

COME HERE.

YOU KNOW I LOVE YOU, RIGHT?

UH-OH.

YEAH.

LOOK, I KNOW I HAVEN'T BEEN A BARREL OF LAUGHS LATELY--

--YOU HAVEN'T ASKED ME TO STOP STEALING THINGS. NOT ONCE.

WH-WHAT?

I REALIZED THAT. TONIGHT. AND THEN I REALIZED I HAVEN'T TRIED TO CORRUPT YOU. NOT EVEN A LITTLE BIT.

AND THAT MADE ME THINK... *WHAT ARE WE EVEN DOING HERE?*

GOING THROUGH THE MOTIONS.

GOING THROUGH THE MOTIONS.

THINGS GOT DARK FOR YOU. AND I THINK I WAS A BIT OF LIGHT.

THAT WAS FUN. FOR A WHILE. I LIKE LIGHTING YOU UP. BUT I WANT A RELATIONSHIP. NOT A PROJECT.

HAVE... *HAVE* YOU BEEN STEALING?

BECAUSE YOU...BETTER STOP.

NICE TRY, PARKER.

YOU TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF, SPIDER.

YOU NEED ME, I'M ALWAYS HERE.

DITTO, CAT.

WELL, PARKER. THINK YOU GOT ALL THE BAD LUCK OUT OF THE WAY.

SHOULD BE NICE AND *BORING* FROM HERE ON OUT.

--COUPLE 'A GROWN MEN RIDING A DAMN CAROUSEL...

HUH?

PLAYTIME'S OVER, ROBERTSON.

YOU'RE MINE!

AAAAAAHHHH!

JANICE! ARE YOU TRYING TO KILL ME?!

IF I WAS, YOU'D BE DEAD ALREADY, PLAYBOY.

NOW GIVE MAMA A KISS.

HAHA, PLEASE DON'T SAY IT LIKE THAT.

WAIT--YOU KNOW THIS IS BAD LUCK THE NIGHT BEFORE THE WEDDING, RIGHT?

MAYBE YOU ***ARE*** A BAD INFLUENCE.

RANDY ROBERTSON, I PROMISE YOU THE MOST SAFE, BUTTONED-UP--DARE I SAY--***NORMAL*** WEDDING THERE'S EVER BEEN. MY DAD HAS ***GUARANTEED*** IT.

TOMORROW, WE ARE JUST TWO LAW-ABIDING CITIZENS SURROUNDED BY OUR LOVED ONES.

BUT TONIGHT?

TONIGHT, WE'RE GONNA BE ***BAD.***

Oh, wow.

CHAPTER 2:

The Big Day

MARCUS GARVEY PARK. WEDDING DAY.

BRIDE OR GROOM, YOUNG LADY?

VERY FUNNY, PETER.

ALTHOUGH I DO HAVE TO SAY, YOU MAKE A *HANDSOME USHER.*

OH, PETER.

YOU DON'T *HAVE* TO, BUT YOU DID, AND I'M NOT GONNA ARGUE WITH MY DEAR AUNT MAY.

"BEST MAN," EH?

THE PEOPLE HAVE SPOKEN, BETTY.

HURRY IT UP, WILL YA? IT'S HOT OUT.

O-OH... RIGHT AWAY, MR.....

HAMMERHEAD.

DON'T WORRY YOUR LITTLE ROUND HEAD WHAT MY NAME IS.

UNDERSTOOD. AND THE LADY...

HA. SHE *DEFINITELY* DON'T GOT A NAME, IF YOU FOLLOW ME.

THAT'S... GREAT.

I'M GUESSING WE'RE HERE FOR THE *BRIDE?*

HERE YA GO, KID. SHOULD COVER THE RENTAL ON THAT CHEAP TUX.

OH, I'M NOT SURE--

TAKE IT.

THIS IS BAD. I'VE GOT A DANGEROUS PSYCHOPATH AT THE WEDDING, AND I JUST SAT HIM ACROSS THE AISLE FROM *AUNT MAY.*

I KNOW TOMBSTONE IS THE FATHER OF THE BRIDE, BUT SURELY, HE DIDN'T INVITE *ALL* HIS...

...CO-WORKERS.

TICK TOCK! COME ON! DON'T THEY TRAIN YOU CHIMPS?

RANDY, WHAT DID YOU GET YOURSELF INTO?

KNOCK KNOCK.

HEY, DAD! MOM WITH YOU?

NO, I THINK SHE'S STILL FREAKING OUT ABOUT HER LITTLE BOY MARRYING A FORMER SUPER VILLAIN.

IT IS *FORMER,* RIGHT? I'VE BEEN TELLING HER *FORMER.*

EITHER WAY! I'M CONFIDENT SHE'LL MAKE IT TO AND THROUGH THE CEREMONY.

AND WHAT ABOUT YOU, DAD? WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT ALL THIS?

I THINK I TRUST MY SON. AND WHAT'S MORE...I TRUST HIS *HEART.*

YOU KIDS ARE GONNA BE FINE.

WOW. I WISH I WAS AS CALM AS YOU.

THAT, MY BOY, CAN BE *ARRANGED.*

AN OLD TRADE SECRET.

WEDDING PARTY IS UP. IT'S GO TIME--
WAIT, WHERE IS EVERYBODY?
LET'S JUST SAY SOME... OKAY, MOST... OF THE LADIES GOT INTO SOME TROUBLE LAST NIGHT. THE F.B.I. MIGHT BE LOOKING FOR THEM.
MIGHT BE OR IS?
...
IS.
OOF. WHICH ONE ARE YOU?
I MEAN... WHAT'S YOUR SECRET IDENTITY?
NO SECRETS. I'M MICHELE. I'M THE BORING FRIEND FROM LAW SCHOOL. WENT TO BED EARLY.
AND YOU?
HUH?
HOW WAS YOUR NIGHT?
SPIDER-SENSE JUST PICKED UP THE PACE. HARD TO FOCUS.
SHE BROKE UP WITH ME. OUT OF THE BLUE.
OOPS. HARD TO CONCENTRATE WITH EVERY CRIME BOSS IN THE CITY GROUSING ABOUT THEIR SEATS.
OH... OKAY.
SORRY... I--I DIDN'T--
THIS IS IT, PETE.
YOU READY, BUDDY?
O-OH YEAH. YEAH. WE GOT THIS.
ALL RISE!
OH WOW.

AND JUST LIKE THAT...I FORGET MY FRIEND'S MARRYING *TOMBSTONE'S* DAUGHTER, THE *BEETLE.*

I SEE LONNIE LINCOLN AND HIS LITTLE GIRL, JANICE.

IT'S RANDY'S FACE THAT DOES IT.

EVERYTHING SEEMS MEANT TO BE.

I CAN'T DO THIS, DAD.

SAY THE WORD. I'LL START SWINGING.

STOP IT! YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO TELL ME I'M DOING THE RIGHT THING!

GETTIN' MARRIED? *ALWAYS* AN INSANE DECISION. BUT THAT'S THE FUN OF IT.

TODAY, IT DOESN'T MATTER THAT RANDY IS THE SON OF A NEWSMAN AND JANICE IS THE DAUGHTER OF A CRIME LORD.

SHE'S YOUR PROBLEM NOW.

DAD!

TH-THANK YOU.

TODAY, THEY'RE JUST TWO KIDS IN LOVE.

TO--

--SPIDER--

--DAY--

--SENSE--

WHO'S THAT?!

JUST RUN, RANDY!

MAY!

HRNN.

PETER?!

STAY IN FRONT OF ME!

IS THIS A HIT?

A POWER GRAB...?

BOSSES LOOK CONFUSED AS ANYONE.

--THE HELL?

YOU'RE GONNA DIE TODAY.

YOU GOT THE WRONG DAY.

BLAM BLAM BLAM

SLUGS, HUH? NICE TRY.

NO ONE TELL YOU I'M...

...BULLETPROOF?

NO ONE WHO KNEW WHAT THE #$%& THEY WERE TALKIN' ABOUT.

HNNGH...

WHO WAS THAT?!

HE'S SHOOTING, RANDY! *KEEP MOVING!*

JANICE'S FATHER IS *BLEEDING!*

WHERE'S PETER?

MOVE, MAY!

YOU'RE SURPRISED. THAT'S OKAY.

YOU HAD LEVERAGE ON EVERY BOSS IN THE CITY...BUT NO ONE SEES *EVERY* ANGLE.

WHAT'S YOUR NAME, TOUGH GUY?

I'LL GIVE YOU ONE GUESS.

HELLO FROM THE *NEW BOSS.*

GUESS THAT MAKES ME H.R.

KRAK

GAR--!

BLAM

WE'VE HAD SOME COMPLAINTS ABOUT YOUR MANAGEMENT STYLE. I'M JUST GONNA COME OUT AND SAY IT...

THEY CONCERN THE *SHOTGUN.*

GURK!

I'M AFRAID WE HAVE TO LET YOU GO.

UNHAPPY WITH THE SEVERANCE PACKAGE?

SHUT THE #$%& UP!

YOU STARTED THE "BOSS" THING.

WAS THIS *YOUR* MOVE, HAMMERHEAD?!

IF IT WAS... YOU'LL LOSE *EVERYTHING.*

WORRY ABOUT GETTING OUT OF HERE ALIVE, MASQUE!

THIS WASN'T MY MOVE!

SCREEEEE

Heh.

THIS WAS.

TH

BOOM

WOW.

TOLD YOU I'D SHOW YOU A GOOD TIME.

YOU DON'T WANNA DANCE WITH *ME*, BOY.

BLAM BLAM BLAM

STRAY BULLETS...

GOTTA END THIS QUICK.

THMP

NO TIME TO BE FUNNY.

TREE BRANCH!

OR MAKE SENSE?

GAHHH!!!

GUH...

GUH...

HI HO, SILVER.

BEHIND ME.

FAST.

MOTORCYCLE.

AUTONOMOUS.

BRAAAAAA

MARK IS DOWN.

I'M GONE.

CAN'T CATCH HIM ON FOOT.

NOTHING TO WEB ON TO.

EXCEPT...

THWIP

THWIP

THWAP

ONLY GONNA GET ONE SHOT AT THIS.

HNNNG.

MAKE IT COUNT!

GRRR...

SRAT

COME ON.

COME ON.

WHERE'D HE GO?

SOUND OF THE MOTORCYCLE IS GONE.

MUFFLED?

THIS GUY'S EITHER REAL GOOD...

...OR HE HAD HELP.

COME ON, DAD. I'M GETTING YOU AND MOM OUT OF HERE. IT'S NOT SAFE.

WHAT ABOUT JANICE?

JANICE...

JANICE HAS OTHER THINGS TO WORRY ABOUT.

I COULDN'T FIND YOU, PETER.

I WAS SO SCARED.

HOW COULD I BE SO STUPID?

I CONVINCED MYSELF RANDY COULD JOIN THE LINCOLNS' WORLD... THAT IT COULD BE *SAFE.*

I WON'T MAKE THAT MISTAKE AGAIN.

BECAUSE I HAVE A FEELING SOMETHING STARTED TODAY THAT'S FAR FROM FINISHED.

YOU WERE THE ONLY ONE LEFT TO PROTECT MARY JANE.

THE ONLY CHANCE WE HAD...

SO YOU SENT HER ONE WAY AND RAN THE OTHER.

WAIT-- *THAT* WAS MY PLAN?

IT'S BETTER THAN IT SOUNDS. LISTEN...

YOU SHAPE-SHIFTED TO LOOK LIKE MJ...USING YOURSELF AS A DECOY.

OH. WELL, THAT'S ***BRAVE.*** I'LL TAKE THAT.

YEAH, AND IT WORKED. HE CAUGHT UP WITH YOU. A-AND...

SORRY, THIS IS KIND OF HARD...

H-HE STABBED YOU. WITH A BLADE.

HE ***STABBED*** ME? I DIDN'T HEAL?

NOT FROM THIS THING. IT WAS CURSED. COULD KILL ANYTHING.

YOU SAID I SAVED THE DAY... BUT IT SOUNDS LIKE I JUST GOT STABBED AND DIED?

NO, SEE... KILLING YOU WASN'T RABIN'S PLAN. YOUR DEATH...IT DISRUPTED HIS CEREMONY. MESSED EVERYTHING UP. HE BASICALLY MELTED AWAY.

IT WOULD HAVE BEEN AWESOME, EXCEPT YOU WERE--

I WAS HOLDING YOU AT THE TIME, AND YOU WERE--

SORRY, THIS IS HARD.

DID I SAY ANYTHING?

YEAH, YOU--

WAIT! I DON'T WANT TO KNOW.

...

WAS EVERYONE SAD?

OH YEAH. DEVASTATED.

I CAN'T BELIEVE IT...

YOU HAVE TO BELIEVE I NEVER IN A MILLIONS YEARS WOULD HAVE ASKED YOU TO GIVE YOUR LIFE.

I'M SO, SO SORRY.

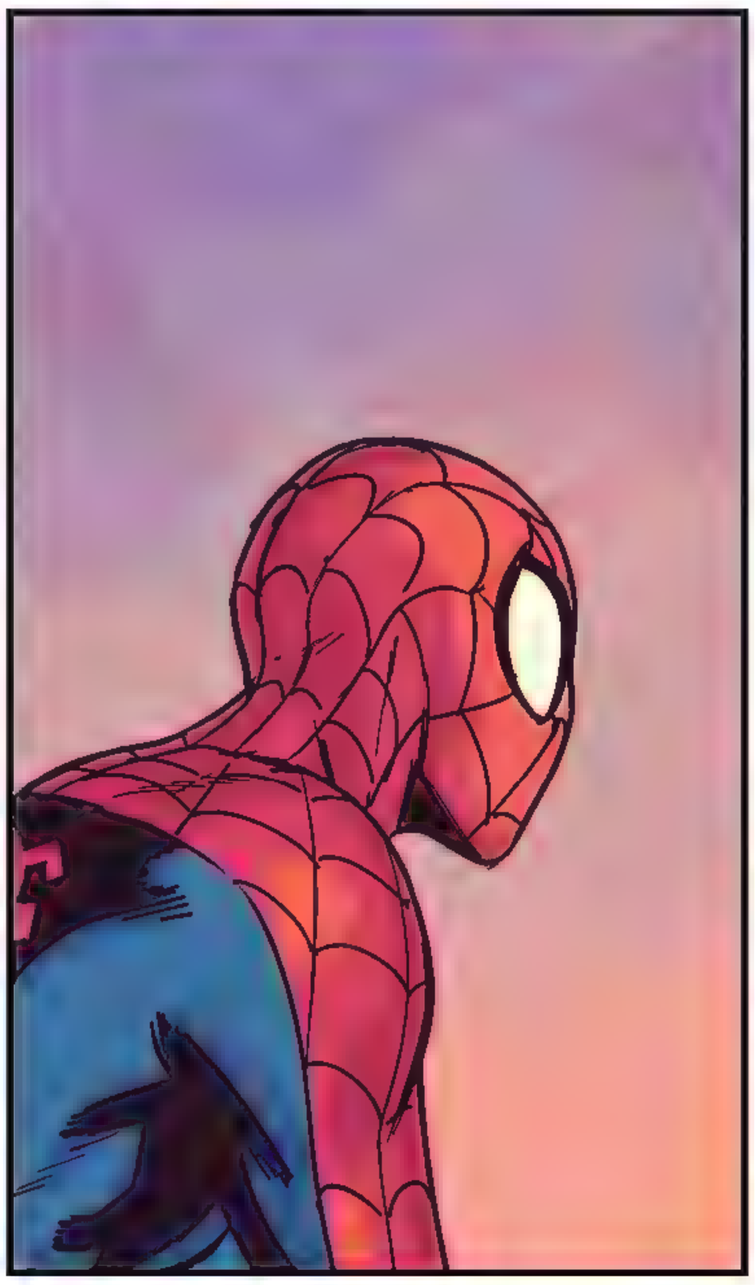
NO...THE SHAPE-SHIFTING. I HAVEN'T DONE THAT IN SO LONG. WASN'T SURE I ***COULD*** ANYMORE...

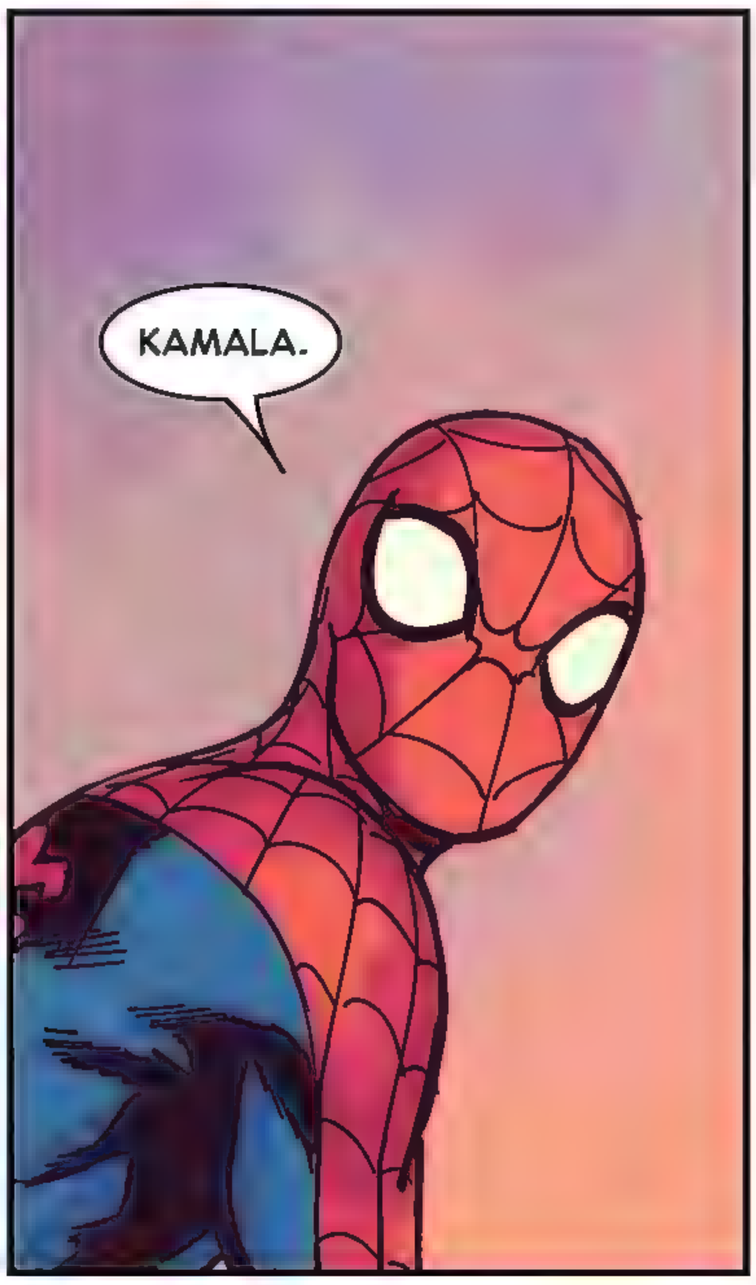
IT WOULD HAVE BEEN ***REALLY*** HARD. THIS MUST HAVE BEEN ***IMPORTANT.***

YOU SAVED THE WORLD, KAMALA.

WELL, SPIDER-MAN. THANK YOU FOR FILLING ME IN. YOU KNOW, WITH THE--
--GAP IN YOUR KRAKOAN BACKUP. OF COURSE. NOT A CONFUSING OR SCARY CONCEPT AT ALL.
NOW I'VE GOT TO GET BACK TO THE
X-MEN.
YOU DON'T HAVE TO SAY IT LIKE THAT EVERY TIME.

KAMALA KHAN SAVED THE WORLD. AGAIN. HOT DOG.




KAMALA.

Hmm?

CAN'T BELIEVE I'M DOING THIS.

WHAT? WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

WHY ARE YOU ACTING WEIRD?

I USUALLY SAVE THIS FOR KIDS WITH INCURABLE DISEASES...

OH MY GOD. ARE YOU--?!

IS THIS HAPPENING?

NO. WAY.

PETER PARKER?!

B-BUT I *KNOW* YOU.

I WORKED WITH YOU.

I WAS WORKING WITH SPIDER-MAN?!

I WORKED WITH SPIDER-MAN!

BUT YOU WERE SUCH A NERD.

I--I STILL AM. I GUESS.

SPIDER-MAN IS A NERD.

I WORKED ON AN ELECTRIC PLASMA ENGINE WITH SPIDER-MAN?

DON'T YOU HAVE A RIDE TO CATCH?

I WORKED AT OSCORP WITH SPIDER-MAN.

I...

YOU WERE THERE FOR THE SAME REASON I WAS.

YOU'RE KEEPING AN EYE ON NORMAN OSBORN.

OH, I...

...

YES.

HUH.

YOU EVER NEED HELP WITH THAT--LOOK ME UP.

REMEMBER, I'M A MEMBER OF THE X-MEN.

I WILL.

THANKS.

YOU BE GOOD, SPIDER-MAN.

YOU TOO, MS. MARVEL.

THE X-MEN.

HOT DOG.

ZEB WELLS - WRITER
DAVID LÓPEZ - ARTIST
KJ DIAZ - COLOR ARTIST
VC's JOE C. - LETTERER

THE BAR WITH NO NAME.

GRAND RE-OP

HEY, GUYS! FIRST ROUND'S ON *ME*. I JUST PULLED OFF THE CRIME OF THE--

SHH!

RINGER? ARE YOU *SHUSHING* ME?

NOT *NOW*, NORTON!

KEEP IT DOWN. WE GOT *ROYALTY* HERE TONIGHT-- AN *A-LISTER*.

IF BIG-NAME VILLAINS START SHOWING UP HERE, WHO KNOWS WHAT *THAT* COULD LEAD TO!

AN *A-LISTER*? WHO IS IT? LOKI? THE RED SKULL? *DOOM*? WHO?!

NONE OTHER THAN THE ONE AND ONLY...

...DOCTOR OCTOPUS!

SILENCE, YOU NATTERING NINCOMPOOPS!

CAN'T YOU SEE THAT I AM TRYING TO *THINK*?!

"THE MAN WITH ALL THE ANSWERS"

DAN SLOTT - WRITER
MARK BAGLEY - PENCILER
JOHN DELL - INKER
EDGAR DELGADO - COLOR ARTIST
VC's JOE CARAMAGNA - LETTERER

I KNOW THIS!

NO! I KNEW THIS!

THE ULTIMATE EQUATION! THE CULMINATION OF MY LIFE'S WORK!

WHY DOES IT ELUDE ME SO?! PERHAPS THE SOLUTION WOULD PRESENT ITSELF...

...IF I WERE TO RELAX? I NEED...

...A BEER?!

IDIOTIC OCKTOID!

ALCOHOL WOULD DULL MY SENSES!

SMASH!

AND I NEED ALL MY WITS ABOUT ME. I SOLVE THIS, AND I GAIN UNLIMITED POWER!

POWER ENOUGH TO CRUSH ALL OF MY ENEMIES! YES. REVENGE ON OSBORN, THE OWL, FISK...

...BUT MOST OF ALL, THAT ACCURSED SPIDER-MAN!*

* DOC IS STILL SMARTING AFTER WHAT SPIDEY DID TO HIM LAST ISSUE. --NICK

HEY, DOC. TAKING A BREAK? MAYBE YOU'D LIKE TO SHOOT SOME--

ENOUGH!

DO YOU KNOW WHY I'M HERE, CRETIN? WHY I CHOSE TO PATRONIZE THIS ESTABLISHMENT?

MEN

BECAUSE YOU ARE ALL SO *FAR* BENEATH ME...

...*NO ONE* WOULD *EVER* THINK TO LOOK FOR ME HERE. DO YOU *UNDERSTAND?*

ALL SIGNS POINT TO "YES"!

GOOD.

DAMN MY *MIND!*

I KNOW I'VE SOLVED *THIS* EQUATION! WHY CAN'T I REMEMBER?

BECAUSE YOU NEVER SOLVED IT, YOU *IMBECILE.*

I DID!

KRASH!

OF *COURSE!* I FOUND THE ANSWER BACK WHEN I WAS *HIM!*

MOMENTS IN TIME I CAN NO LONGER *FULLY* REMEMBER!

VERY WELL. IF I AM TO *RELEARN* THIS *GREAT SECRET...*

...I MUST *RETURN* TO MY *LIFE* AS THE SUPERIOR SPIDER-MAN!

TO BE CONTINUED...

CELESTE BRONFMAN - WRITER
ALBA GLEZ - PENCILER
ELISABETTA D'AMICO &
CRAIG YEUNG - INKERS
JIM CAMPBELL - COLOR ARTIST
VC's JOE CARAMAGNA - LETTERER

HOW DID I GET HERE?

I DON'T EVEN REMEMBER LEAVING OUR APARTMENT. DID WE DRIVE OVER? TAKE THE SUBWAY?

IT'S OKAY TO FEEL GRIEF. AND IT'S OKAY TO CRY.

BUT I GUESS THE MORE DIFFICULT QUESTION IS-- HOW DID I GET *HERE?*

I MAY NEVER UNDERSTAND A WORLD WITHOUT OWEN AND ROMY. *STEPHANIE.*

SHE NEVER DID FIGURE OUT WHICH NAME SHE LIKED BEST.

THESE DAYS, MY LIFE FEELS LIKE AN OUT-OF-SYNC ORCHESTRA. NO SPECIFIC MOMENTS STAND OUT, AND EVERYTHING IS SORT OF MUDDY.

EMOTIONS WILL COME AND GO LIKE WAVES. SO IT'S IMPORTANT TO EMBRACE INSTANCES OF RELIEF WHEN YOU FEEL THEM.

SHE MENTIONS THIS EVERY TIME WE'RE HERE. BUT IT'S BEEN DIFFICULT TO FIND A BREAK FROM THE PAIN.

EVERYONE HAS QUESTIONS ABOUT THAT DAY.

NO ONE IS BLAMING YOU, MR. RABIN. OSBORN'S SAFE HOUSE WAS TEEMING WITH CAMERAS. WE SAW THE CHILDREN *DISAPPEAR.* WE'RE JUST HOPING YOU CAN TELL US *HOW.*

WHAT IS PAUL SUPPOSED TO *SAY?* THAT THE CHILDREN WERE ANIMATED SYMBOLS, BINDING THE EMISSARY TO ME?

IF *WE'RE* NOT EVEN CAPABLE OF PROCESSING IT, HOW CAN WE EXPECT *THEM* TO?

PAUL AND I THOUGHT WE COULD ESCAPE IT ALL AT AUNT ANNA'S.

LOCKING OURSELVES AWAY FROM THE WORLD AND RELYING ON ONE ANOTHER HELPED US SURVIVE ONCE BEFORE.

THUD

MAYBE THIS WAS OUR CHANCE TO FIND SOME *PEACE.*

BUT REAL LIFE ALWAYS MANAGED TO INTERFERE.

DAILY BUGLE

NEW HERO IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

RRRRRRRRRIP!

I FEEL STUCK IN THIS ENDLESS CYCLE.

MOURNING NOT ONLY THE LOSS OF MY KIDS BUT ALSO THAT THEY...NEVER TRULY...EXISTED.

BUT IF THEY WEREN'T REAL, DOES THAT MEAN OUR *LOVE* FOR THEM NEVER MATTERED?

SOMETIMES I WORRY THERE'S SOMETHING WRONG WITH ME BECAUSE OF HOW MUCH I MISS THEM. HOW HEARTBROKEN I AM.

THEN I REMEMBER ROMY WRIGGLING HER HAND IN MINE AT THE PARK, UNABLE TO DECIDE WHETHER OR NOT SHE WAS READY TO LET GO.

OWEN'S BREATH ON MY NECK AS HE FELL ASLEEP IN MY LAP.

AND IT ALL FEELS SO ***PAINFULLY REAL*** THAT I DECIDE TO FORGET FOR A MOMENT AND JUST GRIEVE THE CHILDREN I LOST.

IT'S JUST UNREALISTIC!

THERE WERE SEVEN OTHER WAYS FOR THEM TO ESCAPE THAT TRASH COMPACTOR.

YOU'RE WEARING MY SWEATER, FELICIA.

THE GREEN WAS WORKING AGAINST YOU. IT CLASHES WITH YOUR HAIR.

IT IS, HOWEVER, A GREAT COLOR ON *ME*, SO I'VE DECIDED TO KEEP IT AS A "THANK YOU."

CLICK!

HUH?

GO ON.

IT'S AERODYNAMIC, NEAR-INDESTRUCTIBLE, AND WAS TAILOR-MADE TO COMPLEMENT YOUR ***UNIQUE*** JACKPOT POWERS AND TECH. TO WHICH PAUL MADE SOME UPGRADES.

SO DON'T YOU DARE ***TRY*** TO REGIFT IT.

I APPRECIATE THIS, BUT...I'M NOT A HERO LIKE PETER. OR...YOU.

WELL, I SET AN IMPOSSIBLE STANDARD.

BUT YOUR POWERS SAVED US IN LIMBO. YOU'VE ALREADY BEEN A HERO MORE TIMES THAN I CAN COUNT, AND IT'S WHAT PETER ALWAYS SAYS--

IN MARY JANE & BLACK CAT VOL. 2. --NICK

"WITH GREAT GUILT COMES GREAT SADNESS THAT HOPEFULLY LEADS TO HELPING PEOPLE."

NOT QUITE, FELICIA.

THIS CITY. EVERYONE IN IT. THEY'RE BETTER OFF WITHOUT ME.

WHAT HAPPENED WITH ROMY AND OWEN WAS *NOT* YOUR FAULT.

I TOOK THE EMISSARY'S BAIT. I *LOVED* THOSE KIDS AND *FOUGHT* FOR THEM, AND IT PUT EVERYONE ELSE AT RISK.

YOU TOOK THOSE KIDS IN BECAUSE THEY *NEEDED YOUR HELP.* USING YOUR HEART IS *NEVER* A MISTAKE.

AND SURE, MAYBE THEY WEREN'T THE SAME AS US, BUT WHAT DOES IT *MATTER?* THE WAY YOU LOVED AND FOUGHT FOR THEM WAS *REAL.*

YOU SAVED THEM EVEN BEFORE YOU HAD POWERS, MJ. BECAUSE IT'S WHO YOU *ARE*. AND RIGHT NOW, THIS CORRUPT CESSPOOL OF A CITY COULD REALLY USE ANOTHER HERO.

SO DON'T BE AN IDIOT, OKAY?

HOW DID I GET HERE?

I USED TO THINK IT WAS A COMPLICATED QUESTION. BUT IT'S NOT. MY KIDS *WERE* REAL DAMMIT. I LOVED THEM, AND THEY NEEDED MY HELP.

SO I HELPED THEM.

AND I'M GOING TO HELP OTHER PEOPLE TOO.

AND THAT'S WHERE I'VE GOT AN ADVANTAGE.

CRASHHH!

AHHHHHH!!

PETER HAS SAID IT FOR YEARS, AND NOW I THINK I *FINALLY* UNDERSTAND...

HELP!

WITH GREAT POWER THERE MUST ALSO COME GREAT RESPONSIBILITY.

FACE IT, NEW YORK CITY, YOU JUST HIT THE JACKPOT!

TO BE CONTINUED...

THE BAR WITH NO NAME. NYC.

STILL CAN'T BELIEVE DOC OCK WAS HERE.

TOLD YOU WE HAD TO COME TO THE GRAND REOPENING!

STEVE FOXE - WRITER
ERIC KODA - PENCILER
WADE VON GRAWBADGER - INKER
GURU-EFX - COLOR ARTIST
VC's JOE CARAMAGNA - LETTERER

HEY! YOU KNOW THE RULES. NO FIGHT--

DON'T WORRY, DEKE. I'LL TAKE THIS ONE OUTSIDE.

AFTER ALL, WE GO WAY BACK. DON'T WE...

...SPIDER-WOMAN?

EXIT

GRUNCH

YOU GET THAT ONE...

...AND THE BEER...

...FOR FREE.

GO FOR A THIRD *CHEAP SHOT* AND WE'LL HAVE A PROBLEM, DREW.

YOU TRAIN *CANNON FODDER* FOR EVERY ORGANIZATION THAT MAKES THIS WORLD A WORSE PLACE, *TASKMASTER.*

I NEED THE NAMES OF YOUR "GRADUATES."

THE *WORST* OF THE WORST. YOU *KNOW* WHO I MEAN.

YOU THINK I KEEP ALPHABETIZED *MANILA FOLDERS?*

EMPLOYERS ON THAT LEVEL DON'T EXACTLY WANT PAPER TRAILS--

KRAK

THAT'S YOUR THIRD STRIKE.

YOU DON'T SCARE ME, DREW. I TRAINED YOU.

THEN YOU REMEMBER WHAT MY ***VENOM BLASTS*** CAN DO WHEN I DON'T HOLD BACK.

HELL... LOYALTY'S NEVER BEEN MY STRONG SUIT.

STUYVESANT SQUARE. THERE'S A LOOSE BRICK TO THE LEFT OF THE STATUE.

BY 7:00 A.M. TOMORROW, THERE'LL BE A ***USB FULL OF NAMES*** TUCKED UNDER IT, SORTED BY CLIENT.

CONSIDER IT A FAVOR... ONLY ONE YOU'LL GET.

OUT OF CURIOSITY THOUGH...

THIS AVENGERS BUSINESS, SPIDER-SHENANIGANS, OR ***STRICTLY PERSONAL?***

TRY TO KEEP OUT OF WHATEVER COMES NEXT, TASKMASTER. CONSIDER THAT WARNING ***MY*** FAVOR TO YOU.

"HAVE YOU HEARD FROM ***JESS*** LATELY?

"SHE'S NOT RETURNING MY CALLS, AND I'M STARTING TO GET ***WORRIED.***"

LISTEN, I ALWAYS FEEL LOONY EXPLAINING *SPIDER-STUFF* TO HEROES OUTSIDE OF THE WEB...

TRY YOUR BEST.

JESS KIND OF... DIDN'T EXIST FOR A LITTLE WHILE.

BUT WE *FIXED* IT. I SWEAR.

SHE SHOWED UP OUT OF THE BLUE THE OTHER NIGHT AND-- DANI, GET THAT OUT OF YOUR MOUTH--ASKED ME FOR HELP TRACKING DOWN A LIST OF GOONS.

WOULDN'T TELL ME *WHERE* SHE GOT IT OR *WHY.*

I HELPED HER WEED OUT THE DEAD AND INCARCERATED, BUT WITH LUKE'S JOB AND--DANI, SERIOUSLY!

THE THREADS OF JESSICA DREW'S PATH ARE... *TANGLED,* CAPTAIN MARVEL.

THERE ARE GAPS IN MY VISION. *VOIDS.* BUT WHAT I *CAN* SEE IS *DARK...*

CHECK OUT **SPIDER-MAN: END OF THE SPIDER-VERSE** FOR THE FULL STORY!

"...AND *VIOLENT.*"

TOLD YOU I HAD THE HOOKUP, MAN. A FREE SAMPLE OF THE NEW FORMULA, ON THE HOU--

SLAM

ISAAC TATE. AGE THIRTY-FIVE.

TASKMASTER TRAINED YOU--AND NOT TO PUSH #$%& TO KIDS ON THE STREET.

NO ONE GETS TO JUST WALK AWAY FROM THE MONSTERS YOU WORKED FOR.

OOF!

THEN YOU KNOW-- *hnhh*--THAT I'LL *DIE* BEFORE I TELL YOU ANYTHING.

WAIT, WHAT ARE YOU--?

PFFTTTT

HAIL...

...HYDRA.

NO! YOU DON'T GET TO DIE ON ME, YOU SON OF A #$%&!

NOT UNTIL YOU TELL ME...

WHERE IS MY BABY?!

TO BE CONTINUED IN SPIDER-WOMAN!

STATELY STILLWELL MANOR.
UP IN WESTCHESTER COUNTY,
NEW YORK.

COCK-A-DOODLE--
ACK...
kack... kaff!

"The Mother of Invention"

DAN SLOTT - WRITER
PACO MEDINA - ARTIST
ERICK ARCINIEGA - COLOR ARTIST
VC's JOE CARAMAGNA - LETTERER

AHEM! SORRY, FRIENDS. GOT A LITTLE TICKLE IN MY THROAT. WON'T HAPPEN AGAIN.

PLEASE DON'T TELL *MADAME M.*

MORNING, MA'AM. YOUR PAPER'S HERE.

I'M AFRAID THERE'S AN ARTICLE ON *PAGE ONE* THAT MIGHT... DISTRESS YOU.

EASY THERE, *CRICKET*. YOU KNOW ME. I'M NOT ONE TO SHOOT THE MESSENGER.

TABBY?

EGGS AND BACON, MA'AM.

DELIGHTFUL. AND, POLLY, BE A GOOD BOY. PREP MR. ROOSTER FOR DISSECTION, WOULD YOU?

PREP FOR DISSECTION. *AWK-*

NOW LET'S SEE WHAT HAS YOU *SO* WORKED UP, MR. CRICKET...

OH *MY!*

THIS SIMPLY *WON'T* DO. *NO.* NOT AT ALL.

HOGSWORTH! MY PHONE!

Y-Y-YES, MA'AM. RIGHT HERE.

EMPIRE UNLIMITED, *DR. SHANNON STILLWELL* SPEAKING. THIS IS A *PRIVATE* LINE. HOW DID YOU--?

OH.

HELLO, MOTHER.

DON'T USE THAT TONE WITH ME, YOUNG LADY. I BROUGHT YOU INTO THIS WORLD. AND I CAN TAKE YOU RIGHT *OUT* OF IT.

OR TURN YOU INTO A CHICKEN.

NOW TELL ME, DARLING, I *MUST* KNOW. HAVE YOU BEEN PILFERING MY *PRECIOUS* TECHNOLOGY?

THAT *NEVER* ENDS WELL FOR YOU CHILDREN. DO YOU RECALL WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR BROTHER *FARLEY?*

YES, MOTHER. HE CREATED THE SCORPION WITH IT.*

AND THEN?

HE DIED SHORTLY AFTER.

AND WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR OTHER BROTHER? HARLAN?

SEE ASM #20. --NICK

HE USED YOUR WORK TO CREATE THE HUMAN FLY.**

AAAND THEN?

SEE ASM ANNUAL #10.

HE ALSO DIED.

...

MOTHER? ARE YOU... THREATENING ME?

NOT AT ALL, MY SWEET, SWEET POPPET. I AM MERELY POINTING OUT...

...THAT BAD THINGS SEEM TO HAPPEN...

...TO ANYONE WHO WOULD DARE ATTEMPT TO COPY THE RESEARCH OF Madame Monstrosity.

TERRIBLE THINGS SEEM TO BEFALL ALL WHO'VE ATTEMPTED TO CO-OPT MY LIFE'S WORK WITHOUT ASKING.

A MISLABELED CHEMICAL HERE. A DECIMAL POINT OUT OF PLACE THERE...

...AND SUDDENLY, FOOLPROOF PLANS HAVE PRODUCED FULL-ON MONSTERS.

WITH NONE OF IT TRACING BACK TO ME. AM I BEING CLEAR?

YES, MOTHER.

ARE YOU SATISIFIED?

Mom

OF COURSE I'M NOT, YOU LITTLE BRAT!

BECAUSE IF NEITHER YOU, NOR ONE OF YOUR BRAINDEAD BROTHERS--BACK FROM THE DEAD--ARE BEHIND THIS...

...THEN SOMEONE ELSE IS OUT THERE USING MY BREAKTHROUGHS TO CREATE HUMANIMALS!

DAILY BUGLE

SPIDER-BOY: An Urban Myth Or a Monster Amongst Us

BECAUSE I'M LOOKING AT ONE RIGHT NOW, AND I DON'T KNOW HOW, BUT...

HE'S MINE!

TO BE CONTINUED IN... SPIDER-BOY!

THE CASE OF PERRY THOMAS

A SPIDEY SITUATION

WRITTEN AND DRAWN BY
ALBERT MONTEYS

NOW GET HOME AND LOCK THE DOOR!

THANK YOU, SPIDER-MAN!

WHEW! THANK YOU.

WUFFF... OH, WOW!

A FEW WEEKS LATER.

DON'T STAND HERE-- YOU MIGHT GET SAND IN YOUR PANTS!

LATER THAT SAME MONTH.

HEY, DO I KNOW YOU FROM SOMEWHERE?

...AND A FEW DAYS LATER.

I HAVE A NAGGING *DEJA VU* FEELING.

EVENING!

HEY, JOHNNY.

WHAT DID YOU WANT TO TALK ABOUT?

BEEN WATCHING THE NEWS. I SAW YOU'VE MET PERRY.

PERRY WHO?

PERRY THOMAS. SKINNY GUY, REDHEAD. YOU SAVED HIM FROM THE LIZARD AND THE SANDMAN.

AH, C'MON! YOU ***KNOW*** HIM? WHAT'S THE STORY HERE?

HE'S, *UM*, ADDICTED TO BEING RESCUED.

REALLY?

I JUST WANTED TO LET YOU KNOW. LAST YEAR, HE WAS INTO THE FANTASTIC FOUR, FOLLOWED US EVERYWHERE.

IT WAS A LITTLE EMBARRASSING. WE FELT USED!

DUDE WILL END UP GETTING HURT! HOW DID YOU GET RID OF HIM?

YOU KNOW ***BEN***, HE CAN BE PRETTY CONVINCING.

HE HAD A LITTLE CHAT WITH HIM, AND NEXT THING WE KNOW, HE'S ***YOUR*** BIGGEST FAN.

CAN BEN TALK WITH HIM ***AGAIN?*** I MUST ADMIT, THE GUY IS STARTING TO GET ON MY NERVES!

NO WAY! HE GOT A RESTRAINING ORDER.

BUT I'M SURE WE'LL THINK OF ***SOMETHING.***

ELECTRO'S WREAKING HAVOC IN SOHO! THIS IS GOING TO BE GOOD! OH BOY!

HELLO, YOU MUST BE PERRY!

UH?

*...AND YOU'RE **NOT** SPIDER-MAN!*

SPIDER-MAN IS A LITTLE BUSY TODAY, SAVING THE CITY AND ALL. WHICH IS SHOCKING, BECAUSE I CAN THINK OF ***SO MANY*** BETTER OPTIONS FOR THAT, BUT WHAT ARE YOU GONNA DO...? ***ANYWAY,*** I'LL BE IN CHARGE OF RESCUING YOU TODAY.

WHAT? YOU CAN'T BE SERIOUS! MOVE ASIDE, PLEASE.

TAKE MY HAND AND I'LL WALK YOU TO A SAFE SPOT. NO CREEPY ICKY WEB STUFF, NO BAD PUNS. IT'S A WINNING DEAL, BELIEVE ME.

DON'T-- DON'T YOU TOUCH ME... DISGUSTING!

YOU MEAN, YOU WON'T BE NEEDING HELP TODAY?

WOW, MAN. AT LEAST THE FANTASTIC FOUR HAD THE DECENCY TO LOOK ME IN THE EYE...

YOU THINK YOU *KNOW* PEOPLE AND...

AFTER ALL WE'VE BEEN THROUGH TOGETHER!

DISGUSTING!

SPIDER-HAS-BEEN!

PROBLEM SOLVED, PAL!

YOU'RE A REAL FRIEND, JOHNNY. LET ME BUY YOU PIZZA TONIGHT.

DON'T MAKE PROMISES YOU CAN'T KEEP!

END.

Hmmm...

SPIDER-MAN
LOOSEY GOOSEY

From Cale Atkinson

Bored. Bored. Bored.

SCROLL SCROLL

HONK

Oh, Hello there.

Say "goose"!

Spider-Man, bringing that top-shelf content...

...and, post.

TAP TAP TAP

HONK!

I like you, I'm going to call you Stanley.

And so I was all like "Venom? More like denim"!

You had to be there.

SPIDER-MAN!

Ruh-roh.

YOUR TIME IS UP!

Stay here, Stanley. Staaay. Stay.

FACE ME!

Wait. Is that a goose?

Uh, noo.

HONK!

Yes.

Stanley!

HONK!

Hey! What is this?!

HONK!

HISSSS!

No fair, Spider-Man. You can't hide behind your poultry forever!

HISSSSS

Nice job! You really turned him into Doc Ock-ward.

Whoa, Pal, boundaries.

Hey, my emergency cookie.

So, are we best friends now?

Oh, you're leaving.

Goodbye, Stanley. I love you.

HONK

end.

HUNTRESS BY WELLS, GLEASON, DELGADO, VC's CARAMAGNA

It's *intoxicating*, this *feeling*.

The electricity of being *alive*.

So, this is the gift I give my prey.

The *thrill* of being *hunted*.

In the chase, I *know* her. By her scent. By the pungent heat of her screams.

A magnificent beast.

Entire lives are lived in these moments.

When death is near.

Past and present sharpened to a gleaming *point*.

Roaring with every breath you'll ever take.

Roaring your life's fire.

Death feels such a *tiny price*.

But no...

...not death.

Rage turned to passion.

Hers or mine?

Does it matter?

She speaks of legacies worn.

Totems resurrected.

A hunt to nourish us both.

She's still, but not sleeping.

Does she fear me?

Is she stalking me still?

My heart no longer cares. It only *beats*.

Beats with life's *fire*.

TO BE CONTINUED!

It's been so long... I wonder if they've forgotten me.

Crawling through the rubble for hours... looking for a way out...a way to live.

But a ten-year diet of an IV drip has left my body a bag of bones...

HELP!

IS ANYONE THERE?!

When I hear the familiar voice, the one that kept me captive, chained to a wheelchair and the tube...

...it gives me the strength to keep going...

WATERS...?

THE EXPLOSION KNOCKED ME CLEAR ACROSS ﹥COUGH﹤ ﹥COUGH﹤ THE ROOM RIGHT BEFORE I-IT ALL CAME DOWN.

Every year, you'd drag me out of my hole to watch you eat while I starved.

You thought you could exile me, break me...

HELP... CAN'T FEEL MY LEGS...

Already, my hunger is returning...

FISK? IS THAT *YOU*? THANK GOD...

NOT YOUR GOD. YOUR *KING*.

But first...

...I'm going to break you.

NOOO!!

SNAP!

AHH-HA-HA!

I CAN'T FEEL ANYTHING...

CRACK!

POP!

ANYTHING...

KLATCH!

The King has returned.

Itsy-bitsy spider...

...went up the water spout.

Down came the rain...and washed the spider out.

BLUB BLUB BLUB

Up came the sun and dried out all the rain...

SORRY TO INTERRUPT YOUR BATH, MY KING. BUT THE CIVIL-AGITATION METERS ARE HITTING RED AGAIN.

THE COUNCIL IS ASKING PERMISSION TO UP THE LEVELS OF SERNASE TO COMPENSATE.

APPROVED. BUT MEDICATION IS ONLY EVER A ***TEMPORARY*** ELIXIR.

A KING MUST ***SERVE*** HIS PEOPLE AND LEAD THEM TO A ***PERMANENT*** SOLUTION.

TRANSFORM THEM INTO THE FUTURE...

...OR BURY THEM IN THE PAST.

I'VE GROWN RESTLESS. I WANT THE DBN BROADCAST PUSHED UP TO THIS WEEK.

OF COURSE. MAYOR FISK, THE CITY EAGERLY AWAITS YOUR ANNOUNCEMENT.

I WONDER IF THEY WOULD BE SO EAGER IF THEY KNEW WHAT WAS COMING...

...and the itsy-bitsy spider...

...crawled up the spout again...

PETER, WHERE DID YOU GO *THIS* TIME?

I WAS WITH *YOU*...

SILLY PETER, YOU DON'T BELONG TO ME... YOU BELONG TO *THEM*. TO THE *CITY*... AND IT'S CALLING FOR YOU.

CAN YOU HEAR THE RHYMES AGAIN? THE CHILDREN HAVE BEGUN TO SING...

SO MUCH HURT AND PAIN AND DEATH... SO MANY THINGS YOU CAN'T REWIND.

WHAT DID YOU LET THEM *DO*, TIGER?

AND WHAT ARE WE GONNA DO ABOUT IT?

KAARE ANDREWS - WRITER/ARTIST
VC's JOE CARAMAGNA - LETTERER

The most notorious Spider-Man story ever told...RETURNS.

David Nakayama
#29 HELLFIRE GALA VARIANT

Marco Checchetto & Richard Isanove
#29 VARIANT

Skottie Young
#30 VARIANT

Elena Casagrande & Jordie Bellaire
#31 WOMEN OF MARVEL VARIANT

Mike Vosburg & Rachelle Rosenberg
#30 VARIANT

Nick Bradshaw & Rachelle Rosenberg
#30 VARIANT

George Pérez & Alex Sinclair
#31 VARIANT

Greg Land & Frank D'Armata
#31 VARIANT

John Tyler Christopher

#31 NEGATIVE SPACE VARIANT

THE AMAZING
SPIDER-MAN
MARVEL
WELLS · ROMITA JR. · LAISO · HANNA · MENYZ · VALENZA · AND MORE!
ISSUE #31 LGY#925
JACKPOT
NYC'S NEWEST SUPER HERO MAKES US SAY *SPIDER-WHO?!*
MARY JANE WATSON
THE CLASSIC MULTI-HYPHENATE ADDS ANOTHER!
VAN DYNE-AMISM
JANET'S SUMMER LINE HAS A *STING.*
LUKE CAGE
AMERICA'S HOTTEST MAYOR?!

Humberto Ramos & Edgar Delgado

#31 2ND PRINTING VARIANT

Skan

#31 2ND PRINTING VARIANT

"It's clear this vision of **Amazing Spider-Man** *is creating a very bright future for the series and character."* – ComicBook.com

HAS SPIDEY FINALLY MET A SUPERIOR FOE?

SPIDER-MAN IS GRIEF-STRICKEN AFTER A SHOCKING DEATH – but there's no shortage of super villains lining up to put him in the grave, as well! First up: a revitalized and upgraded Doctor Octopus! As Otto takes his deadlier-than-ever tentacles on a rampage through Oscorp, can Spidey clean Doc Ock's clock? With his back against the wall, perhaps a surprising ally can swing things in the wall-crawler's favor! Then, wedding bells are ringing, and Peter Parker has to make it to the church on time – because he's the best man! Janice Lincoln and Randy Robertson are tying the knot, and there's no way that all the crime bosses in NYC aren't seeing this as an opportunity to knock off the father of the bride: the whispering menace Tombstone!

COLLECTING ***AMAZING SPIDER-MAN (2022) #27-31*** AND MATERIAL FROM ***FREE COMIC BOOK DAY 2023: SPIDER-MAN/VENOM*** – BY ZEB WELLS, ED McGUINNESS, JOHN ROMITA JR., EMILIO LAISO, ZÉ CARLOS, MARK FARMER, CLIFF RATHBURN, SCOTT HANNA, MARCIO MENYZ, BRYAN VALEN AND MORE.

T

MARVEL

Jack.T.Ripper

BLOODY MARVELOUS!